

REORGANIZATION PLAN SUBMITTAL SHEET

(Each municipality in a School Union must be indicated separately.)

REC'D NOV 24 2008

School Administrative Units Included in APPROVED Notice of Intent	School Administrative Units Submitting Reorganization Plan
Bridgewater	Bridgewater
Easton	Easton
MSAD #42 (Blaine & Mars Hill)	MSAD #42 (Blaine & Mars Hill)
MSAD #45 (Perham, Wade & Washburn)	MSAD #45 (Perham, Wade & Washburn)

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Date Plan Submitted: November 21, 2008

Proposed RSU Operational Date: July 1, 2009

NOV-13-2008 01:23P FROM: EASTON SCHOOL DEPT 2074882840
11/17/2008 11:04AM

TO: 94558217 P. 2/2
11/17/2008 11:04AM

Superintendent Signature

Date

SAU

Superintendent Signature

Date

SAU

Superintendent Signature

Date

SAU

Superintendent Signature

Date

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Superintendent Signature

Date

SAU

Superintendent Signature

Date

SAU

Superintendent Signature

Date

SAU

<u>Michael P. Gray</u> Signature/Title	<u>10-29-08</u> Date	<u>Easton</u> SAU
<u>Wayne Darling</u> Signature/Title	<u>10-29-08</u> Date	<u>Bridgewater</u> SAU
<u>Tim Allen</u> Signature/Title	<u>10/29-08</u> Date	<u>Bridgewater</u> SAU
<u>Thomas L. Smith</u> Signature/Title	<u>10/29/08</u> Date	<u>SAD 42 Blaine</u> SAU
<u>James McFly</u> Signature/Title	<u>10/29/08</u> Date	<u>SAD 42</u> SAU
<u>John C. Gubik</u> Signature/Title	<u>10/30/08</u> Date	<u>Bridgewater</u> SAU
<u>Todd Cron</u> Signature/Title	<u>10/31/08</u> Date	<u>Man H.H.</u> SAU
<u>Nina Bradstreet</u> Signature/Title	<u>11-5-08</u> Date	<u>Bridgewater</u> SAU
<u>Ronald F. Osgood</u> Signature/Title	<u>11/8/08</u> Date	<u>Easton</u> SAU
 Signature/Title	 Date	 SAU
 Signature/Title	 Date	 SAU
 Signature/Title	 Date	 SAU

M. J. McInt
Signature/Title

10/29/08
Date

SAD # 45
SAU

Dan Rubin
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10/29/08
Date

SAD # 45
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Theresa Cochran
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SAD # 45
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Cassie Pillett
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SAD # 42
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Gregg J. J.
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EXSTON
SAU

M. J. J.
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EXSTON
SAU

Signature/Title

Date

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Date

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Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Revision History

Version	Date	Description
1	11/7/08	1st plan submission
1.1	11/18/08	Per review by Drummond Woodsum
1.2	11/18/08	Revisions as per the 11/17/08 letter from Commissioner Gendron – Sections General, 3, 9, 11,13, 13-B & 14
1.3	11/21/08	Revision per J. Clockedile based on recommendations from DMW and Commisioner Gendron

Plan Submission

Date	
11/7/08	Initial work in progress plan
11/21/2008	1st submission of final plan

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Reorganization Plan Cover Sheet

(Please attach Reorganization Plan as Exhibit A)

Required Elements							
Law Referenc e Item Number Sub- Chapter	Item	N/A	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Identified Barrier ¹	Need Assistance
3.A(1)	SAUs included in RSU		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(2)	Size of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Composition of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Apportionment of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(3)	Method of voting of the governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(4)	Composition of local school committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Powers of local school committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Duties of local school committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(5)	Disposition of real & personal school property		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(6)	Disposition of existing school indebtedness (if not using provisions of section 1506)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disposition of lease-purchase obligations (if not using provisions of section 1506)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(7)	Assignment of school personnel contracts		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Assignment of school collective bargaining agreements		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Assignment of other school contractual obligations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(8)	Disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(9)	Transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Transition plan that addresses interim personnel policies		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(10)	Documentation of the public meeting(s) held to prepare or review reorganization plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(11)	Explanation of how units that approve reorganization plan will proceed if one or more units do not approve the plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(12)	Estimate of cost savings to be achieved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(13)	Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Please explain why this is a barrier and what assistance you need to remove this barrier on the next page.

² Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on page 3.

Parameters for Plan Development							
Law Reference Item Number Sub-	Item	N/A	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Identified Barrier ³	Need Assistance
3.B(1)	Enrollment meets requirements (2,500 except where circumstances justify an exception ⁵)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sec. XXXX-36, Parameter B	When viewed in conjunction with surrounding proposed units, may not result in one or more municipalities being denied the option to join an RSU		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(2)	Comprehensive programming for all students grades K - 12.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Includes at least one publicly supported high school		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(3)	Consistent with policies set forth in section 1451		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(4)	No displacement of teachers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No displacement of students		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No closures of schools existing or operating during school year immediately preceding reorganization, except as permitted under section 1512		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sec. XXXX-26, Parameter F	The plan must address how the school administrative unit will reorganize administrative functions, duties and noninstructional personnel so that the projected expenditures of the reorganized school unit in fiscal year 2008-2009 for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program ⁶		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collaborative Agreements							
						Yes	No
Does your plan currently include information/documentation on collaborative agreements? (not required, but encouraged)						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

³ Please explain why this is a barrier and what assistance you need to remove this barrier on the next page.

⁴ Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on page 3.

⁵ Please note in the *Exceptions to 2500 minimum* section on next page

⁶ This requirement is only for those who plan to be operational as an RSU in fiscal year 2008-2009, in accordance with a **Reorganization Plan** that is approved by the Commissioner and by the voters.

Exceptions to 2,500 minimum**Actual number of students for which the SAU is fiscally responsible: 1080**

Exception	Exception Claimed in Plan	Documentation Provided? (Please attach as Exhibit 1)	
		Yes	No
Geography	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demographics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Population Density	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Unique Circumstances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

See Section 13-G.

Explanation of Barriers –

Please use this section to explain any/all barriers identified on the previous page as a barrier in completing your Reorganization Plan.

Law Reference/Required Element	Explanation of the barrier

Assistance Needs –

Please use this section to describe your needs for assistance and from whom you need assistance.

Law Reference/Required Element	Explanation of your assistance need	Assistance needed from whom?

School Administrative Unit Reorganization Plan

for

Central Aroostook District Schools
a regional school unit
made up of Maine School Administrative Units:

Bridgewater

Easton

MSAD #42 (Blaine & Mars Hill)

MSAD #45 (Perham, Wade & Washburn)

[Plan submission November 21, 2008]

Respectfully submitted to Commissioner Gendron by superintendents:

Ed Buckley
Gehrig Johnson
Frank Keenan
Roger Shaw

with assistance from facilitator:

Jake Clockedile

On behalf of all applicable school committees.

REORGANIZATION PLAN

SAUs Submitting:

Bridgewater School Department

Easton School Department

MSAD #42 (Blaine & Mars Hill)

MSAD #45 (Perham, Wade & Washburn)

Contact Information

For MSAD #45 (Perham, Wade & Washburn)

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Washburn, ME 04786

For Bridgewater school department

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Presque Isle, ME 04769

For Easton school department

Frank Keenan, superintendent

PO Box 126

Easton, ME 04740

For MSAD #42 (Blaine & Mars Hill)

Roger Shaw, superintendent

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35 Pleasant Street

Mars Hill, ME 04758

Date Submitted by SAU: November 21, 2008

Proposed CADS Operational Date: July 1, 2009

Central Aroostook District Schools

Statement of Intent

The plan to consolidate the towns of Blaine, Bridgewater, Easton, Mars Hill, Perham, Wade and Washburn into the Central Aroostook District Schools (hereinafter variously referred to as “CADS”, “the RSU”, “the regional school unit” and “the region”) is intended to comply with the state statutory requirements set forth in the school consolidation law. It is also intended to maximize opportunities to deliver services that can more effectively and efficiently be provided in larger districts administratively, as well as more creative educational program opportunities for the students of the above mentioned towns. As provided by the law, in effect on the operational date of the Central Aroostook District Schools, it will maintain school choice opportunities for students exercising a right to choose a public school or an approved private school. Further, it is intended to provide for equity and fairness for its member towns.

Preamble

It is the intent of the Central Aroostook District Schools to reaffirm the continuous work of school improvement in order to bring its mission to fruition.

The mission statement clearly and concisely defines the purpose of what we do as members of the Central Aroostook District Schools as we work collaboratively toward common interests.

Each goal is a description in present tense terms of what Central Aroostook District Schools will look like and how it will function when it is operating at its best.

The mission statement and educational goals are subject to revision by the Central Aroostook District Schools Board of Directors.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Central Aroostook District Schools is to educate each and every student to the fullest of his/her potential, enabling them to participate fully as productive and self-fulfilled members of a democratic society. The Central Aroostook District Schools envisions strengthening community commitment to education and improving/maintaining comprehensive educational programs by managing resources wisely, creatively, equitably and cost effectively.

Educational Goals

- Each school ensures a comfortable, safe environment providing an atmosphere of support and respect for others.
- A cohesive, personalized and challenging curriculum directed toward future aspiration.
- Rich educational experiences and high quality curriculum materials are equitably provided for students to prepare them with basic as well as complex skills and knowledge, intellectual curiosity, creativity, a strong work ethic and the ability to function effectively with others.
- The complexity and diversity of individual learners is recognized and accommodated.
- Resources are maximized to serve students more fully.
- Talented and dedicated staff members who are positive role models for students and community members are recruited and maintained.
- Schools work in cooperation with the local communities for the sharing of resources for the continuous improvement of student achievement.
- Nurture an environment that is conducive to change.

Potential Educational Advantages

Consistent with the previously outlined goals, the following ideas suggest some of the opportunities that bear further investigation for the possible inclusion in the Central Aroostook District Schools:

1. Students with similar interests could be grouped for any non MPA sanctioned co-curricular or extra-curricular activities which are not currently available within the single operating SAUs.
2. Offerings in the allied arts could be expanded through sharing of staff and costs;
3. Special educational programming could be coordinated depending upon student needs (i.e. day treatment, gifted & talented);
4. Regular educational programming could be expanded through shared resources and technology (i.e. advanced math classes, additional science labs, foreign language, developmental kindergarten, pre-school programs);
5. Technology could be enhanced by consolidated and coordinating resources;
6. Alternative programs could be expanded to meet the needs of students with atypical learning styles;
7. Professional development opportunities for staff members could be coordinated to maximize use of time and resources;
8. Availability of library and media materials could be expanded through inter-library loans;
9. Community resources could be catalogued and made available to staff and students;
10. Volunteer hours could be increased and used more effectively through coordination and training of potential volunteers.

SECTION 1

The units of school administration to be included in the proposed reorganized regional school unit:

The proposed regional school unit includes the following school administrative units:

- Town of Easton, a municipal school unit.
- Town of Bridgewater, a municipal school unit.
- Maine School Administrative District No. 42 (Blaine & Mars Hill)
- Maine School Administrative District No. 45 (Perham, Wade & Washburn)

SECTION 2

The Size, Composition, and Apportionment of the Governing Body

The CADS Board shall be composed of 14 members: 2 Blaine residents, 1 Bridgewater resident, 3 Easton residents, 3 Mars Hill residents, 1 Perham resident, 1 Wade resident, and 3 Washburn residents. Each Board Member shall serve a 3-year term, except that the initial terms of the members of the first RSU Board shall be staggered as provided by Title 20-A M.R.S.A. § XXXX-40 below:

Town	# Reps	June 2009	June 2010	June 2011	June 2012	June 2013	June 2014	June 2015	June 2016
Blaine	2	3			3			3	
		2		3			3		
Bridgewater	1	3			3			3	
Easton	3	1	3			3			3
		2		3			3		
		3			3			3	
Mars Hill	3	1	3			3			3
		2		3			3		
		3			3			3	
Perham	1	3			3			3	
Wade	1	3			3			3	
Washburn	3	1	3			3			3
		2		3			3		
		3			3			3	

*The initial terms will last 1 ½, years, 2 ½ years, and 3 ½ years since members of the RSU Board of Directors will begin their work in April 2009 after a March 2009 election. The six month period between January 2009 and July 2009 will be a transition period where existing School Committees/Boards of Directors will be completing their duties and the RSU Board of Directors will be beginning their responsibilities.

Note: The only time there will be candidates running for 1 ½, 2 ½, and 3 ½ year terms will be during the initial fourteen member election. Thereafter, all terms will be for three-year duration. No one election year will see more than 7 of the 14 seats open nor will any town/city have more than one contested seat.

SECTION 3

The Method of Voting of the Governing Body

Each municipality in the CADS shall elect the number of its residents to serve on the Board as shown in the table below to meet the one person/one vote requirement of Maine's Constitution; the Board Members' votes shall be weighted as follows.

Appointment Plan: 14 Member - CADS: Central Aroostook District School Method "D" Weighted Voting that is in compliance of the "one man-one vote" principle.

Municipality	2006 Est	% of	Total	# of	#of	%of	Total Votes
	Census	Populatio	Votes	Directors	Votes per	Voting	by
					Director	Power per	Municipality
					Director	Director	
Blaine	799	12.6%	799		400	6.3%	
					400	6.3%	799
Bridgewater	593	9.3%	593		593	9.3%	593
Easton	1,217	19.2%	1,217		406	6.4%	
					406	6.4%	
					406	6.4%	1,217
Mars Hill	1,459	23%	1,459		486	7.7%	
					486	7.7%	
					486	7.7%	1,459
Perham	421	6.6%	421		421	6.6%	421
Wade	244	3.8%	244		244	3.8%	244
Washburn	1,618	25.5%	1,618		539	8.5%	
					539	8.5%	
					539	8.5%	1,618
TOTAL	6,351	100%	6,351	14	6,351	100%	6,351

SECTION 4

The Composition, Powers, and Duties of any Local School Committee to be created

No local school committee shall be created by the CADS. The Bridgewater and Easton School Departments and the SAD 42 and SAD 45 School Boards shall continue with the management and control of the public schools and programs until the CADS becomes operational on July 1, 2009.

SECTION 5

A. Real Property and Fixtures.

Except as listed in Exhibit 5-A, all real property interests, including without limitation land, buildings, other improvements to realty, easements, option rights, purchase and/or first refusal rights, and all fixtures under the control and management of the school departments of Bridgewater and Easton, or owned by MSAD #42 and MSAD #45 shall be conveyed to the Central Aroostook District Schools. The CADS board may require such deeds, assignments or other instruments of transfer as in its judgment is necessary to establish the right, title and interest in such real property and fixtures.

The real property interests and associated fixtures that shall not be transferred are listed in Exhibit 5-A.. All real property and fixtures not listed in Exhibit 5-A shall be transferred to the Central Aroostook District Schools. The non-transferred property shall become property of the municipality in which it is located, unless otherwise specified in this plan. Nothing contained in this Plan requires Easton or Bridgewater to convey or transfer any municipal property other than public school property.

B. Personal Property.

All other tangible school personal property, including movable equipment, furnishings, textbooks and other curriculum materials, supplies and inventories of the school departments of Bridgewater and Easton, and of MSAD #42 and MSAD #45, shall become property of the Central Aroostook District Schools except as listed in Exhibit 5-B.

The CADS board may require such bills of sale or other instruments of transfer as in its judgment is necessary to establish CADS right, title and interest in such property. It is recommended that the CADS board develop a policy regulating movement of equipment from one building to another.

C. Agreements to share or to jointly own property.

In cases where real or personal school property is currently shared or is jointly used by a school department with a municipality or other party, the disposition of such property shall be as set forth in Exhibit 5-C. Maintenance responsibilities of shared property is also discussed in Exhibit 5-C.

SECTION 6

The disposition of existing school indebtedness and lease-purchase obligations if the parties elect not to use the provisions of the Section 1506 regarding the disposition of debt obligations

A. Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements that the Central Aroostook District Schools WILL Assume: The Central Aroostook District Schools shall assume liability to pay bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements as specified in Exhibit 6-A.

Additionally, other bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements issued by one of the entities before the operative date of the Central Aroostook District Schools shall be assumed by the Central Aroostook District Schools, provided the entity issued the bond, note or lease purchase agreement in the normal course of its management of the schools for an essential purpose to replace its existing facilities and items of equipment that are no longer serviceable or to keep them in normal operating conditions.

B. Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements that the Central Aroostook District Schools Will Not Assume. Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A 1506(4) The Central Aroostook District Schools does not assume the bonds, notes and lease purchase agreement specified in Exhibit 6-B, which shall continue to be paid by the original member, and the Central Aroostook RSU shall serve as the fiscal agent for the original member for the purpose as specified in Exhibit 6-B.

C. New Capital Project Debt that the Central Aroostook District Schools Will Issue and Assume. If the voters or other applicable legislative body of an SAU has authorized the issuance of bonds for a school construction or a minor capital project, but the SAU has not issued all of the authorized permanent bonds for that project, the Central Aroostook District Schools Board shall issue bonds or notes to finance the completion of that project and to refund any temporary notes the SAU issued for the project, as required by 20-A M.R.S.A 1506(5). With respect to such new project debt the Central Aroostook District Schools shall assume liability to pay only the bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements listed in Exhibit 6-C, if any.

D. New Capital Project Debt that the Central Aroostook District Schools Will Issue But Will Not Assume. If the voters or other applicable legislative body of an SAU has authorized the issuance of bonds for a school construction or a minor capital project, but the SAU has not issued all of the authorized permanent bonds for that project, the Central Aroostook District Schools Board shall issue bonds or notes to finance the completion of that project and to refund any temporary notes the SAU issued for the project, as required by 20-A M.R.S.A 1506(5). With respect to such new project debt the Central Aroostook District Schools will not assume liability to pay the bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements listed in Exhibit 6-D, or any other such new project debt unless listed in Exhibit 6-C.

E. Defaulted Debt is Excluded from Being Assumed. Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, except where legally required to do so, the Central Aroostook District Schools will not assume any bond, note or lease purchase agreement as to which the SAU is in breach or has defaulted.

F. Other Debt Not assumed. Except as provided in this section of the Plan, the Central Aroostook District Schools will not assume liability for any bonds, notes or lease purchase agreements issued by an SAU prior to the operative date of the Central Aroostook District Schools.

~~Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, except where legally required to do so, the Central Aroostook District Schools will not assume any bond, note or lease purchase agreement as to which the SAU is in breach or has defaulted.~~

SECTION 7

The Assignment of School Personnel Contracts, School Collective Bargaining Agreements and Other School Contractual Obligations

A. **School Personnel Contracts.** Individual employment contracts of the existing MSAD 42, MSAD 45, Easton and Bridgewater School Departments: Pursuant to Section XXXX-43(5) of Title 20-M.R.S.A., individuals who are employed on the day before the operational date shall be employed by the new District on the operational date. This provision does not prevent the existing MSAD 42, MSAD 45, Easton and Bridgewater School Departments from terminating or non –renewing the contract of employees in accordance with applicable law before the operational date of the District. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the District.

Employees of the existing MSAD 42, MSAD 45, Easton and Bridgewater School Departments who do not have written individual employment contracts: Pursuant to Section XXXX-43 (5), the individuals who are employed on the day before the operational date shall become employed by the New District as of its operational date. This provision does not prevent the existing MSAD 42, MSAD 45, Bridgewater and Easton School Departments from terminating employment of the employees in accordance with applicable law before the Districts operational date. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the District.

The Duties and assignments of all employees transferred to the New District shall be determined by the Superintendent of the District or his/her designee.

SAU	Contract/Condition of employment	Non-contract	Total Employees
Bridgewater	9		9
Easton	46	4	50
MSAD 42	80		80
MSAD 45	46	29	75

B. **School Collective Bargaining Agreements.** The collective bargaining agreements listed below as to which MSAD 42, MSAD 45, Bridgewater and Easton School Districts are a party, shall be assumed by the New District as of its operational date. All of the employer's rights and responsibilities with respect to collective bargaining shall be fully assumed by the District as of the District's operational date.

List of all school collective bargaining agreements:

SAU	Bargaining Unit	Termination Date	
Bridgewater	Bridgewater Teachers Association	06/30/2009	Teachers
Easton	Easton Support Staff Association	06/30/2009	Support Staff
Easton	Easton Teachers Association	06/30/2009	Teachers
MSAD 42	Central Aroostook Teachers Association	06/30/2009	Teachers
MSAD 42	Central Aroostook Support Staff Association	06/30/2009	Support Staff
MSAD 45	Washburn Teachers Association	06/30/2010	Teachers
MSAD 45	AFL-CIO, COUNCIL 93	06/30/2010	Custodians, bus drivers

C. **Other School Contractual Obligations.** A list of all contracts as to which the MSAD 42, MSAD 45, Bridgewater and Easton School Departments are a party and that will be in effect as of the District's operational date is below. The New District shall assume the contracts as of the operational date.

SAU	Company	Exp Date
Easton	Multi-State Billing	08/31/2011
MSAD 45	Waypoynt	08/31/2011

SECTION 8

Existing School Funds and Financial Obligations

*Including undesignated fund balances, trust funds, reserve funds
and other funds appropriated for school purposes*

A. **Existing Financial Obligations.** Pursuant to Section XXXX-36(5) of Title 20-A M.R.S.A., the disposition of existing financial obligations is governed by this plan.

Existing financial obligations shall include the following:

- (i) all accounts payable;
- (ii) to the extent not included as accounts payable, any financial obligations which under generally accepted accounting principles would be considered expenses of Blaine, Bridgewater, Easton, Mars Hill, Perham, Wade and Washburn for any year prior to the year the Central Aroostook District School becomes operational except, however, accrued wages and benefits; and
- (iii) all other liabilities arising under generally accepted accounting principles that can be reasonably estimated and are probable.

Each SAU shall satisfy its existing financial obligations from all legally available funds. If an SAU has not satisfied all of its existing financial obligations, the SAU shall transfer sufficient funds to the Central Aroostook District Schools to satisfy its remaining existing financial obligations, and the Central Aroostook District Schools Board shall be authorized to satisfy those existing financial obligations on behalf of the SAU. If the SAU does not transfer to the Central Aroostook District Schools sufficient funds to satisfy its existing financial obligations, then to the extent permitted by law, the Central Aroostook District Schools Board may satisfy those obligations from balances that the SAU transfers to the RSU. If the available balances transferred are insufficient to satisfy the SAU's existing financial obligations, or are not legally available for that purpose, the CADS Board may take any action permitted by law so that all of the municipalities of the Region are treated equitably with respect to the unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an SAU. For example, to the extent permitted by law, the Central Aroostook District Schools Board may satisfy the unpaid existing financial obligations of an SAU in the same manner and with the same authority as for the unassumed debt under the provisions of 20-A M.R.S.A. 1506(4).

Additionally, to the extent permitted by law, if in the judgment of the Central Aroostook District School Board it must raise funds from all its members to satisfy existing financial obligations of an SAU, the RSU board also shall be authorized to raise additional amounts for the purpose of making equitable distributions (which may be made in the form of credits against assessed local shares of the Region's approved budget) to those RSU members that would otherwise bear costs attributable to unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an SAU for which they had no financial responsibility. The intent of the preceding sentence is that financial responsibility for unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an SAU be borne by its members and not by the other members of the region.

A-1 **Remaining Balances.** The balance remaining in the SAU's school accounts after the SAU has satisfied existing financial obligations in accordance with this plan shall be paid to the treasurer of the regional school unit, verified by audit and used to reduce that SAU's contribution as provided by Section XXXX-43(4).

Unless the Legislature otherwise provides, in the case of SAD #42 and SAD #45 (collectively, "district") the school board of the district shall specify in writing to the regional school unit board how the region shall allocate transferred remaining balances between district members. Unless the Legislature otherwise provides, if the district board has not specified in writing to the regional school unit board how this allocation shall occur, then the transferred remaining balances shall be credited to the district's members in proportion to their respective shares of that portion of the total local costs of the region allocable to all of the district's members for the operational year.

Transfers of remaining balances may occur within the period specified by Section XXXX-43(4), or, as may be preferable in the case of a district, at any time before the district has closed its accounts and ceased normal operations.

B. **Proposal for Ownership of Funds and Accounts.** All the student activity accounts and funds shall remain the property of individual sites and have full authority of these accounts. Thus past practice will become the norm.

C. **Reserve Funds.** Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42 and MSAD #45 shall transfer remaining balances of reserve funds to the Central Aroostook District School, except as otherwise specified in this Plan. Unless otherwise provided by applicable law, a transferred reserve fund shall be used in accordance with its original purpose to benefit a school or schools of the SAU. Transferred reserve funds shall be subject to Title 20-A M.R.S.A., except that the transfer of funds in a reserve fund or a change in purpose of the fund may only occur in such manner that the funds continue to benefit the members of the SAU that transferred that reserve fund to the Central Aroostook District School. Notwithstanding the foregoing, reserve funds for accrued summer salaries and benefits, if any, transferred by an SAU to the RSU shall be treated as "remaining balances" under section 8-A-1 and used to reduce that SAU's contributions as provided by Section XXXX-43(4).

D. **Scholarship Funds.** Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42 and MSAD #45 shall transfer remaining balances of scholarship funds to the Central Aroostook District School. Scholarships shall be limited to the original pool of potential recipients, and distributed in the manner as to which they were intended, unless otherwise provided by the donor or by applicable law.

E. **Trust Funds.** Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42 and MSAD #45 shall transfer trust funds, if any, to the Central Aroostook District School. The Central Aroostook District School shall be deemed the successor trustee for all purposes, except as provided by the trust or by applicable law.

SECTION 9

Transition Plan that Addresses the Development of a Budget for the First School Year of the Reorganized Unit and Interim Personnel Policies

A. The Plan's Guiding Principle to Minimize Disruption during School District Reorganization: Creation of a pre-reorganization Transition Committee.

A guiding principle of the Plan is to ensure that the reorganization of the SAD 42, SAD 45, Bridgewater, and Easton school departments into the CADS minimizes as much as possible any disruption to the schools' educational programs.

The CADS will establish a Transition Team of at least one (1) member per municipality to continue detailed work on the Reorganization Plan that will be comprised of the same Regional Planning Committee members who wish to continue with all open positions being filled by representative groups (Community, Local Government, School Boards).

The Transition Team will officially begin its work after the DOE approval of the Reorganization Plan is obtained on or before November 21, 2008. The Regional Planning Committee will officially be dissolved upon election of the CADS Board.

The estimated cost savings / additional cost analysis will be referred to the Transition Team for further review.

The reorganization of administration, transportation, buildings and maintenance, and the current collaborative efforts in Special Education will be referred to the Transition Team to further refine and develop operational recommendations for the CADS Board.

The Transition Team will work with the current SAU superintendents and School Boards to initiate preparation of school site and central administration budget recommendations which shall be provided to the RSU Board once elected. The Transition Team will participate in the SAU Boards' preparation of their respective budgets for fiscal year 2009-2010 with any costs related to transition being paid by municipalities based on population as specified in section 3.

The CADS Board will, as one of its early tasks, develop a policy which will address administration of personnel policies during the interim period and, for after the operational date until such time as CADS-wide personnel policies, can be reviewed, developed and enacted.

The Transition Team shall provide information to the voters of SAD 42, SAD 45, Bridgewater, and Easton regarding the plan; and

The Transition Team shall complete such other pre-reorganization tasks as may be appropriate for presentation to the RSU Board, once elected.

The CADS Transition Team shall be dissolved on or before the initial convening of the transitioning CADS Board.

Reorganization Timetable

The timetable for adoption and implementation of the reorganization Plan is as follows:

November 14 2008: Submit work-in-progress reorganization plan to form the CADS to the Commissioner of Education for provisional approval by the Commissioner by December 15, 2008.

December 1, 2008: Submit final reorganization plan to form the CADS.

January 20, 2009: The Reorganization Plan to form the CADS is submitted by referendum to the voters of Bridgewater, Easton, SAD 42, and SAD 45. The Reorganization Planning Committee shall be dissolved upon a successful vote to form the new RSU.

April 2009: RSU Board hires a superintendent, consolidates policies and procedures, develops a RSU Budget for FY 2009-2010.

May 2009: Referendum validation process for the RSU Budget, FY 2009-2010.

SECTION 10

Public Meetings Held to Prepare For the Reorganization Plan

Refer to Appendix 10

Central Aroostook District Schools Regional Planning Committee Meetings

Date of Public Meeting	Time	Location
June 11, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
June 18, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
July 9, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
July 16, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
August 6, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
August 20, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
September 3, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
September 17, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
October 9, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
October 15, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
October 29, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
October 30, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria
November 5, 2008	6:00 PM	Easton Elementary Cafeteria

SECTION 11

Explanation of how Units that Approve the Reorganization Plan will Proceed if One or More of the Proposed Members of the CADS Fail to Approve the Plan

If one more of the proposed members of the region fail to approve the plan, the SAUs that approve the plan shall proceed as follows:

If despite rejection by Bridgewater, the plan is approved by each of the other applicable school administrative units including a majority of the voters in SAD 42, SAD 45 and Easton pursuant to section XXXX-36(9), the membership of the RSU shall include the towns of those other three school administrative units. The Commissioner may determine the necessity, if any, for reapportionment pursuant to 20-A MRSA §1475.

If the plan is rejected by one or more SAUs (other than Bridgewater), the region shall not be formed under this plan and the SAUs shall re-initiate the process to form a regional school unit with the same or other school administrative units. The region as a whole or any individual school administrative units may seek assistance from the Department of Education to form another reorganization plan pursuant to Section XXXX-36(11).

Any revision(s) made to this plan shall be subject to the provisions in this plan for amending it and shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education.

Section 12

Estimate of Cost Savings to be Achieved*

The RPC has provided, within this plan, guidelines for the new CADS Board to use when considering the future cost sharing plans. The Committee has also provided recommendations for the CADS Board in considering cost-sharing analysis.

The re-organization of the SAUs into a single entity is estimated to achieve an annual cost savings in the areas of Central Office administration, special education and facilities and maintenance. The net savings estimate in these areas is \$146,627 annually based on current costs.

However, due to differences in salary and benefits in the existing employment contracts for teachers and hourly wage employees, there are potential leveling up costs of approximately \$784,693 that will need to be addressed by the RSU during the first three years of operation. There may be additional start up costs that are not able to be estimated at this time. See Exhibit 12 for salary and benefit leveling up costs.

In addition, for any of our districts that vote no on the final consolidation plan there will be a loss of revenue (state subsidy of \$167,771) from a penalty for non-compliance. Those penalties for the first year are currently reflected as:

Bridgewater	\$9,727
Easton	\$42,942
MSAD #42	\$56,958
MSAD #45	\$58,144

These penalties are anticipated to increase as the SAUs property valuations increase.

*Note: Due to the Bridgewater school closing (which is not an element of this plan), there will be a reduction in faculty and hourly wage employee salaries and benefits of approximately \$252,034.52.

SECTION 13

Other Matters Determined to be Necessary

Central Aroostook District Schools Communication Plan

Governance functions and central office functions will be consolidated.

Central Aroostook District Schools will enhance and promote educational opportunities, and contain rising school costs.

Working together we will preserve existing educational excellence and provide new opportunities for our communities.

CADS Board Vacancy

The RSU board is recommended to adopt a policy addressing CADS board-declared vacancy caused by absenteeism at its earliest practical convenience, which policy shall be consistent with applicable statutes.

School Calendar

The CADS Board may allow variations in school calendar in the first operational year, as necessary to align as much as is practical with applicable vocational educational centers and receiving high schools.

13-A. Plans to Reorganize the Operational Areas of Current Administration, Central Office, Special Education, Maintenance/Transportation*.

Current Administration

SAU	Current Superintendent Salary	Current Health Benefits	Current Total	Contract Expiration
Easton	70,789.00	3756.00	74,545.00	03/2011
Bridgewater	23,000.00		23,000.00	06/2009
MSAD 42	77,000.00	9000.00	86,000.00	05/2011
MSAD 45	54,000	900.00	54,900.00	Renewable every 20 days
Total	226,789	13,656	240,445	
Proposed New RSU – One Superintendent	125,000	10,000	135,000	
SAVINGS	101,789.00	3656.00	105,445.00	

Current Administration: The current SAU's employ 4 superintendents, The RSU new plan proposes 1 superintendent. A net savings **\$105,445** will be achieved annually.

*Savings shown will not be realized until current contracts expire.

Central Office Staff and Board Operation

SAU	Current Central Office Positions	Current Salaries and Benefits	Current School Board Cost for Four Boards (s)
Easton	1	46,760.00	58,700.00
Bridgewater	Contracted	18,450.00	12,350.00
MSAD 42	2	82,800.00	47,500.00
MSAD 45	1	30,159.00	43,727.00
Total	4	178,169.00	162,277
Proposed New RSU	4.5*	221,000.00	111,800
Savings		(42,831.00)	50,477.00

Central Office/Board Costs: Currently Bridgewater Contracts Services for Central Office with SAD1. MSAD 45 is being served with interim superintendent and contracted Central Offices Services with an independent contractor. Thus current costs are not reflective of average operations of Central Office. Combining current school boards cost with current staff cost compared to the proposed central office position shows a net savings of

\$7,646.00. *Proposed Central office positions: Business Manager, Accounts Payable, Payroll/Salary Clerk, 1.5 secretaries

Transportation/Maintenance Supervisor Cost

SAU	Cost of Supervision
Easton	3000.00
Bridgewater	7000.00
MSAD 42	9600.00
MSAD 45	52,680.00
Total	72,280.00
Proposed New RSU One Supervisor	55,000.00
Savings	17,280.00

Transportation/Maintenance: Three of the current systems use stipends for supervision in this area. One has a fulltime supervisor with salary and benefits. The plan proposed one transportation/maintenance supervisor with a net savings of **\$ 17,280.00**

Special Education Cost

SAU	Administrative Cost
Easton	4000.00
Bridgewater	21,755.00
MSAD 42	58,265.00
MSAD 45	30,741.00
Total	121,756.00
Proposed New RSU. Director	80,000.00
Proposed New RSU Secretary	25,500.00
Total	105,500.00
Savings	16,256.00

Special Education: Easton uses a stipend and Bridgewater uses a contracted service for special education. MSAD 42 and MSAD 45 use current employees. Consolidation will show one director and one secretary for CADS with net savings of **\$16,256.00**

Four Areas of Operational Savings

Area of Savings	Net Savings
Current Administration	\$105,445
Central Office/Board Costs	\$ 7,646
Maintenance/Transportation	\$ 17,280
Special Education	\$ 16,256
Total Proposed Savings	\$146,627

With the consolidation of 4 area of operation for the SAU's, a total net savings of **\$146,627** would be achieved annually.

It is anticipated that the reorganization of system administration, maintenance/transportation and special education will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.

***Note:** Due to the Bridgewater school closing, (which is not an element of this plan), there will be a reduction in faculty and hourly wage employee salaries and benefits of approximately \$252,034.52.

(13-B) Cost Sharing in Regional School Unit

The following principles were used in developing the cost sharing plan:

The RPC Finance Committee attempted to find a funding solution that historically didn't penalize any of the towns that make up the RSU. They looked at municipal valuation, student population, and traditional or historical cost of the additional local contributions that were paid by each community. The committee found that 100% valuation penalized all but one community, 100% student population gave huge advantages to some communities while penalizing other communities increasing their cost considerably. Using 100% traditional costs also unfairly penalized several communities while benefiting others. The most equitable solution was a combination of student populations (5%) and traditional cost of education (95%) that resulted in the following formula that would be used in funding the additional local cost of education or the amount above EPS funding in the new RSU.

Amendments that Pertain to Sections 13B.1 and 14

Any amendment to Sections 13B.1 (Cost Sharing Formula) and 14 (Amendment to the CADS Plan) shall require approval by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the weighted votes of the entire regional school unit board before being submitted for public referendum.

Reconsideration of the Cost Sharing Formula

Although amendments to the Plan may be submitted for a vote at any time, the CADS Board shall conduct a comprehensive review of Section 13B.1 in the third (3rd) year of the CADS' operation, to determine if any amendments are appropriate.

(13-B-1) Cost Sharing Formula

Each member SAU will be responsible for its current local only debt through the life of that debt. In the case of SAD #42 and SAD #45, allocations shall be made in accordance with Title 20-A MRSA §1506(4). Each member SAU will also be responsible for its required local contribution towards the cost of

Essential Programs and Services. Any additional local funds shall be shared by the member municipalities as follows:

Bridgewater	2.41%
Easton	57.40%
Blaine	8.40%
Mars Hill	14.32%
Perham	3.51%
Wade	2.11%
Washburn	11.84%

This cost sharing formula may be amended in accordance with Plan sections 14-A and 14-B.

13-C Election of the Initial Board of Directors

The election of the initial RSU Board of Directors shall be conducted in accordance with 20-A MRSA § 1472-A.

(13-D) Tuition Contracts & School Choice

There are no tuition contracts in existence as of the date of this plan. Bridgewater will continue to have school choice for grades K-12.

(13-E) Claims and Insurance

Currently there are no lawsuits against the SAUs, administrative complaints, due process proceedings, notice of claim and/or other claims existing as of October 30, 2008.

However, Easton has filed a lawsuit citing faulty construction against the General Contractor and the Engineer who constructed the new roof on the Easton Elementary School.

13-F Vote to Approve Plan.

Before submitting a reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education, the governing body of each school administrative unit shall adopt the following vote:

Vote to be Adopted by CADS to Submit Reorganization Plan to Commissioner:

VOTED: That the provisions included in the school reorganization plan prepared by the CADS Reorganization Planning Committee to reorganize Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD 42 and MSAD 45, into a regional school unit with an operational date of July 1, 2009 are determined to be necessary within the meaning of Section XXXX-36(5)(M) and that the Superintendent of Schools be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to submit the school reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education on behalf of this school administrative unit by November 18, 2008.

13-G Section for RSUs with Fewer Than 2,500 Students

CADS is a proposed RSU with a total of 1,080 students. After researching and exploring all options for consolidating with other schools, SAD 42, SAD 45, Bridgewater, and Easton have elected to consolidate into one RSU to meet the state consolidation, guidelines on the basis of population, geography, and economics. In order to preserve the existing relationships and meet the needs of the individual school administrative units, it was decided that the above combination of school units would most effectively maximize educational opportunities for students and ensure equitable access to rigorous programs for all students.

The proposed RSU has been approved by the Commissioner of Education with more than 1,000 students but less than 2,500 as the member units represent the only available partners that exist at this time. In addition to this, the area is rural and an isolated region of the state. There are currently no other alternatives to expand the number of students being served in the RSU.

13-H CTE Regions

Whereas students from high schools within the proposed RSU attend both the Caribou area CTE center and the Presque Isle CTE center, it is the intent of the RSU that students from the high schools within the RSU shall continue to attend their traditional CTE Center. Should a student wish to participate in a CTE program from another center, the RSU Board shall utilize the process in statute and DOE rules to consider such requests. The RSU Board shall have the sole authority with regard to such considerations.

The RSU Board shall be the successor for its members for purposes of a CTE region/center cooperative agreement. Costs of a CTE region or center budget allocated under the cooperative agreement shall be the responsibility of the RSU. No cooperative agreement amendment shall be binding on the RSU without the approval of the RSU Board. Nothing in this plan shall confer any rights on any creditors or bondholders of a CTE region or to extend liability for CTE region debts, liabilities or obligations to the RSU members that are not members of the CTE region.

The RSU Board on behalf of its member communities shall be responsible for assigning members to the CTE Advisory or Cooperative Board in keeping with Cooperative Agreement.

13-I 5 YEAR MORATORIUM ON SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The Board shall not have the authority to close any school within the RSU for a period of five (5) years from the date the Board is sworn in. This section shall not prohibit a community from voting to close its school(s). This prohibition on school closings supersedes the Board's authority to close schools, or to assess the town the extra costs to keep the school open if the town votes not to close a school, as specified in 20-A Sections 1511 and 1512, for a period of five (5) years.

SECTION 14

AMENDMENT TO THE CADS PLAN

14-A Changing the Plan Will Require a Public Referendum

Upon adoption of the plan by a majority of the voters of the member school administrative units of the CADS, any amendment to the Plan shall require approval by referendum by the majority of the voters in the CADS; any such changes shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education.

14-B Amendments that Pertain to Sections 13B.1 and 14

Any amendment to Sections 13B.1 (Cost Sharing Formula) and 14 (Amendment to the CADS Plan) shall require approval by at least two-thirds ($2/3$) of the weighted votes of the entire regional school unit board before being submitted for public referendum.

14-C Reconsideration of the Cost Sharing Formula

Although amendments to the Plan may be submitted for a vote at any time, the CADS Board shall conduct a comprehensive review of Section 13B.1 in the third (3rd) year of the CADS' operation, to determine if any amendments are appropriate.

EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT 1

The CADS RSU is located in Central Aroostook, south of MSAD #1 and north of MSAD #29. The SAUs proposed in this RSU represent all of the systems not currently engaged in consolidation planning.

The area fits into the rural, isolated parameters reorganized in the consolidation statutes and the SAU economic profiles are similar in nature.

Exhibit 5-A - Real Property Interest NOT to be Transferred

A list of real property interests and associated fixtures that shall NOT be transferred to the RSU. To the extent not specified below, final boundaries of each excluded property shall be determined by the RSU board in consultation with the applicable towns. In the event that any school(s) closes prior to the formation of the RSU, only that real property that is deemed necessary for RSU operations will be transferred to the new RSU. Prior to transfer of any property, and within one year of formation of the RSU, the new RSU shall complete a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) (ASTME 1527-05) on all properties proposed for transfer, and as to which such a Phase 1 assessment has not been performed. If the phase 1 inspection recommends a subsequent Phase 2 ESA and/or environmental cleanup, the RSU board may decline to accept a transfer of the property until an agreement between the member community (or communities in the case of SAD #42 or SAD #45) and the RSU is established to apportion responsibility for the costs of such studies, further studies, and costs of mitigation and clean up

Bridgewater: None.

Easton: None.

MSAD #42: None.

MSAD #45: None

Exhibit 5-B - Personal Property, Furnishings & Curriculum NOT to be Transferred

Below is a list of personal property, furnishings, curriculum materials and inventories that shall NOT be transferred to the RSU. In the event that any school(s) closes prior to the formation of the RSU, only that personal property that is deemed necessary for RSU operations will be transferred to the new RSU.

- Bridgewater: None
- Easton: None
- MSAD #42: None
- MSAD #45: None

Exhibit 5-C - Jointly Shared/Used Property to be Transferred

A list of shared or jointly used real or personal property transferred to the CADS.

1. Buildings, grounds, vehicles (buses and vans) and facilities will be available to member communities of the CADS for community functions subject to CADS board policy to be developed in conjunction with town boards or administrators, provided that final decisions on school policies shall be made by the CADS board.
2. Athletic fields and/or Tennis Courts - The CADS will have exclusive rights to the fields or courts during normal school hours. During the school athletic seasons the School Department will have priority in use of fields Mon - Sat for scheduled competitive events (including make-up games); and for practices Mon – Sat, the practice hours to be negotiated in conjunction with other community athletic/recreational departments, who shall have access to fields at times that do not interfere with scheduled competitive events or normal practice hours, subject to reasonable community access policies of the CADS. Maintenance costs of these fields are to be shared by the CADS and the applicable community athletic/recreational department through either a lease, use agreement or other agreement where the town takes over all maintenance of the fields for a fee OR an agreement where current maintenance practices and funding is kept in place OR such other agreement as the parties may otherwise determine. This will be reviewed at the same 3 year window as the financial cost sharing formula.
3. Real and Personal Property Maintenance – All buildings/facilities and vehicles transferred to the CADS shall be maintained by the CADS. Grounds maintenance shall be handled by the new CADS, with the exception of snow removal, which will be handled by the member communities under an arrangement for reimbursement with the CADS. If a town does not reach an agreement with the CADS on the terms of such snow removal, nothing herein precludes CADS for making its own snow removal arrangements.

Exhibit 6-A Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements that the Central Aroostook District Schools RSU WILL Assume

None.

Exhibit 6-B Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements that the Central Aroostook School District RSU Will Not Assume

SAU	Bond/Note/Lease	Amount	Last Payment
Bridgewater	Bus	\$20,363.49	2010
Total		\$20,363.49	

Easton	School Roof	\$139,412.00	2013
	School Addition at HS	\$89,688.98	2017
	Cafeteria Upgrade	\$32,000.00	2017
Total		\$261,100.98	

MSAD #42	Honeywell Project	\$24,500.00	2011
Total		\$24,500.00	

MSAD #45	Honeywell Project	\$26,891.00	2011
	Bus	\$73,173.84	2010
	Windows	\$196,731.82	2016
	Roof	\$46,077.59	2010
Total		\$342,874.25	

Grand Total of Unassumed Debt		\$648,838.72	
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Exhibit 6-C New Capital Project Debt that the Central Aroostook School District RSU Will Issue and Assume

None

Exhibit 6-D New Capital Project Debt that the Central Aroostook School District RSU Will Issue But Will Not Assume

None

APPENDIX 9

Reorganization Timetable

The timetable for adoption and implementation of the reorganization Plan is as follows:

November 14, 2008: Submit work-in-progress reorganization plan to form the CADS to the Commissioner of Education for provisional approval by the Commissioner by December 15, 2008.

December 1, 2008: Submit final reorganization plan to form the CADS.

January 20, 2009: The Reorganization Plan to form the CADS is submitted by referendum to the voters of Bridgewater, Easton, SAD 42, and SAD 45. The Reorganization Planning Committee shall be dissolved upon a successful vote to form the new CADS.

April 2009: CADS Board hires a superintendent, consolidates policies and procedures, develops a CADS Budget for FY 2009-2010.

May 2009: Referendum validation process for the CADS Budget, FY 2009-2010.

Exhibit 10

Public Meetings Held to Prepare For the Reorganization Plan

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
June 11, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary Cafeteria

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Superintendents role
4. State Facilitator role
5. Selection of officers
6. Decision making process
7. Timeframe for completion
8. Sub-Committees
9. Future division of RPC meeting time
10. Schedule of future meetings
11. Goals/concerns/questions
12. RPC Fiscal Agenda
13. Sub-Committee Tasks
14. Adjourn

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
June 11, 2008
6:00 PM
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Nina Bradstreet; Wayne Bradbury; Gehrig Johnson, Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: Mike Corey; Tom Osgood; Norm Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Michael McIntosh; Andrea L. Powers; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Echo Kaply-Smith (Public); Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator)

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Easton Superintendent, Frank Keenan. Mr. Keenan welcomed all present to Easton and spoke briefly on the task ahead for the RPC. Mr. Keenan then invited each of the other superintendents to share their thoughts on the task of the RPC. A brief introduction of themselves was then shared by each member of the RPC.

Following introductions, Mr. Clockedile, the group's state facilitator, began the meeting by giving a brief overview of the tasks and responsibilities of the group. Mr. Clockedile then moved to the agenda for the evening's work.

Item 1: Determine role of the district's superintendents.

Each SAU determined that their Superintendent would be a liaison to the group but not a member of the group. The superintendents would be available to do research, answer questions, give advice and to prepare documents for the group.

Item 2: State Facilitator Role.

Mr. Clockedile outlined his role in the process. His main role is to facilitate the necessary discussions needed in the RPC to help the RPC understand the tasks and aid their decision making process. Mr. Clockedile will not make any decisions. He will give advice only when asked. He has worked with 4 other RSU's in this process already. One of his RSU's voted to consolidate on June 10th by a 4 to 1 margin. He also has worked with three SAU's who don't need to consolidate but are developing alternative plans. His role is not to defend the law or the department of education, but only to facilitate the RPC's work. Mr. Clockedile's wages and expenses will all be covered by the Department of Education. Mr. Clockedile then discussed the funding available through the Department of Education for the RPC and its member SAU's. The Regional Planning Committee has \$2500 available from the DOE to cover any needed legal expenses. The RPC also has \$2500 available from the DOE to cover miscellaneous operating expenses. Each of the SAU's in the RPC (Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42 & MSAD #45) has \$2500 available to them from the DOE to use for legal advice.

Item 3: Selection of RPC Committee Officers.

- A. Motion by Jerry Dow (MSAD #45), 2nd by Nate Smith (MSAD #42) to nominate Tom Osgood (Easton) as Committee Chair. Approved 12-0-1. (Favor-Oppose-Abstain).
- B. After much discussion, the committee agreed to have Mr. Osgood ask his wife, Ann, if she would be interested in serving as secretary for the group. Mr. Osgood will have an answer at the next meeting.
- C. Motion by Jerry Dow (MSAD #45), 2nd by Nate Smith (MSAD #42) to nominate Greg Day (MSAD #42) and Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45) as co vice-chairs. Approved 11-0-2.

Item 4: Decision making process for RPC decisions.

After a thorough discussion, it was decided that future RPC decisions would be done as much as possible by consensus. However, there will be many very important issues that will require a vote. The RPC decided that votes will be taken by SAU rather than individual voting. Each SAU will have one vote and will decide their vote through caucus. A quorum will be determined by having a majority of the SAU's present and represented at the meeting. A question was asked of Mr. Clockedile by Mr. McIntosh concerning the possible need/method to replace an RPC member who stops attending. Mr. Clockedile indicated the communities should use the same method to replace that was used to put the current members on the RPC.

Item 5: Planning the Timeframe for Completion of the Plan.

The deadline for the final vote on the plan by the communities in order to avoid the penalties will be January 30, 2009. It is necessary for our group to have a completed plan to the Commissioner by December 15, 2008. If the deadline is met and a plan approved by the Commissioner, our School Boards, and the citizens of the communities by January 30, 2009; it is then sent to the State Board of Education for certification. Once certified by the state board, the RPC is officially formed. At that time a new RSU board is elected and must hire a superintendent and develop a budget to be approved for the new RSU before July 1, 2009.

Item 6: Use of Sub-Committees to Complete Tasks.

Mr. Clockedile talked briefly about what has worked best in the other RPC's that he has worked with to complete the tasks. He recommended that the RPC consider forming 4 sub-committees with the superintendents being available to serve as liaison for the committees.

The 4 committees that he recommended were:

- a. Governance – committee to produce a recommendation on the size, composition, apportionment, method of voting of the governing body
- b. Finance - looks at cost sharing, cost shifting, all areas of finance
- c. Contracts/Educational Planning – reviews all collective bargaining agreements, individual contracts, presents the financial impact on the RSU of merging all contracts, reviews the educational offerings in each SAU to see where resources could be shared by the new RSU

- d. Disposition of property – presents a description of what exists for property in each of the SAU's, reviews what will be needed to transfer ownership to the new RSU and other issues, such as busing

By consensus, the RPC decided to follow Mr. Clockedile's suggestion to work using sub-committees. Membership on the various committees will be as follows:

- A. Governance: Norm Trask (Easton), Jerry Dow (MSAD #45), Jan Greico (MSAD #45), Nate Smith (MSAD #42) and Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater).
- B. Finance: Mike Corey (Easton), Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45), Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45) and Butch Richards (Bridgewater).
- C. Contracts/Educational Planning: Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater), Greg Day (MSAD #42), Tom Osgood (Easton), Daren Churchill (MSAD #45) and Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45)
- D. Disposition of Property: Andrea Powers (MSAD #45), Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45) and Mike Corey (Easton).

Item 7: Future Division of RPC Meeting Time.

By consensus it was decided that the meetings will consist of the first 2 hours being used for sub-committee work and the last hour will be full committee review of the sub-committee work.

Item 8: Schedule of Future Meetings.

The next meeting of the RPC is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 6:00 PM in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria. Tentatively, the RPC decided to hold subsequent meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The meetings will be held at the Easton Elementary School.

Item 9: Goals/Concerns/Questions of Member SAU's

- a. Andrea Powers (MSAD #45) asked Mr. Clockedile to review the difference between an RSU Board structure and the new "Alternative Organizational Structure".

Mr. Clockedile described the RSU structure of governance as being very close to the current SAD structure. The "AOS" is a much different structure. In an "AOS" the central board has specific authorities attributed to it. Those powers cannot be transferred. The "AOS" central board controls district administration, Special Education, transportation, curriculum, "AOS" budget and state reporting. In an "AOS" structure local boards control their school's budgets, hire their employees, and maintain stronger local control. The structure is very complicated, requires inter-local agreements and creates multiple boards. In our circumstance, there would be 5 boards counting the "AOS" board that the superintendent would serve. The "AOS" structure would have to be approved by each community in the "AOS". The inter-local agreements spell out the relationship among all the parties and the division of authority. We would have to all submit another letter of intent to the Commissioner in order to pursue the "AOS" structure.

Item 10: RPC Fiscal Agent

The RPC is required to have one of the SAU's serve as the fiscal agent for the RPC. By consensus Easton was asked to serve as the fiscal agent. Easton agreed.

Item 11: Sub-Committee Tasks

Each of the sub-committees was given information to gather for the next meeting on June 18, 2008:

Governance – census information in each of the communities.

Finance - list of all debts in the SAU's – both state sponsored & local only – scholarship funds and reserve funds.

Contracts/Educational Planning – copies of all contracts in each of the districts.

Disposition of Property – description of all property, deeds, plot drawings and VFA data.

For the purpose of making voting decisions, quorum will be determined by SAU presence, it takes 3 out of 4 SAU's to pass a voted decision.

Mr. Shaw (MSAD #42) pointed out that there were 4 sub-committees and Easton & Bridgewater have only 3 representatives on the RPC. He asked the group to consider allowing them to place a 4th member to the RPC so they could have a member on each sub-committee. Mr. Shaw also noted that, since all votes are by SAU, it doesn't matter how many are on the RPC, each SAU gets only one vote. By unanimous consensus the RPC decided to allow Bridgewater and Easton an additional member on the RPC.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Keenan
Acting Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	ninab@stepstones4youth.org
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Gehrig Johnson	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton		dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw	MSAD #42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD #42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
Greg Day	MSAD #42	425-5301	gskkday@verizon.net
Daren Churchill	MSAD #45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, June 18, 2008
6:00 PM
Easton Elementary Cafeteria

1. Call to Order
2. Announcements
3. Public Participation
4. Adjustments to the agenda
5. Approval of Minutes of 6/11/08 meeting
6. Approval of fiscal agent financial report
7. Breakout of Sub Committees
8. Report of Governance Committee
9. Report of Finance Committee
10. Report of Contract/Education Planning Committee
11. Report of Disposition of Property Committee
12. Return to full meeting
13. Schedule next meeting
14. Adjourn

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
June 18, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Wayne Bradbury; Nina Bradstreet; Duska Kingsbury; Roland "Butch" Richardson; Terri Allen; Ellen Schneider, Assistant Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: Dave Hopkins; Tom Osgood; Norm Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Nate Smith, James McClay; Todd Grass, Carolee Hallett; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Jan Greico; Michael McIntosh, Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kim Hall, Recording Secretary

Members Absent: Mike Corey (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45)

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Chairperson, Tom Osgood. Members were asked to complete the sign-in sheet and new members were asked to list their name, affiliation, phone number and email address on the back of the sign-in sheet to allow them to be added to the listserve. Mr. Osgood reported that his wife had declined his request to act as Secretary to the committee and introduced Kimberly Hall (Administrative Secretary to Mr. Keenan) who would be taking minutes at this meeting. Prior to introductions, Mr. Keenan asked to clear up a miscommunication from the previous meeting regarding finances. He stated that the amount of money allocated to each RPC for miscellaneous expenses was actually \$5000, not \$2500 as originally stated at the 6/11 meeting. This money needs to be requested by the Chairperson of the RPC and, he continued, Mrs. Hall has the forms to be completed and submitted as soon as they can be signed by Mr. Osgood. (Addendum: The request forms were signed by Mr. Osgood following the meeting and faxed to the DOE by Mrs. Hall on 6/19/08). Each member then introduced themselves and all new members were welcomed.

Following introductions, Mr. Osgood turned the floor over to Co Vice-Chair, Michael McIntosh. Mr. McIntosh referenced a conversation held after the first meeting and a subsequent email from Mr. Osgood encouraging members be open and honest with each other and the need to feel free to speak their minds at the meetings. The email resulted in some RPC members misunderstanding Mr. Osgood's intentions and feeling that the email was condescending. Mr. McIntosh expressed his confidence in Mr. Osgood as Chair and stated that the circumstance points out the need to recognize that this was a case of a misunderstanding stemming from unfamiliarity with one another. Mr. McIntosh expressed support for Mr. Osgood's request that all parties work in an open, positive manner in this challenging task ahead. Mr. McIntosh then presented three issues that some members felt required clarification.

Mr. McIntosh requested that information about future meetings of the RPC be released to the media to allow for more public participation in the meetings. Mr. Clockedile recommended that information be disseminated as this

may foster public support. Mr. Keenan offered that Mrs. Hall would be able to handle releasing information to the press via email. Approved by consensus.

Mr. McIntosh requested the committee to consider rotating the meeting place to allow for at least one meeting in each of the 4 member districts. Although Easton is the most centrally located, this would allow members the opportunity to visit the other districts. It would also allow for participation by the public in the various districts. It was discussed and determined that Mr. Osgood would be responsible for coordinating with the contact person from each district to schedule meetings. Approved by consensus.

At this point Mr. Trask raised the concern that these issues had been brought up and voted on at the last meeting and felt that continuing to revisit previous topics after they had already been voted on may not be the best use of the committee's time. Mr. McIntosh stated that this was for clarification only, to ensure that all members had the same understanding. Mr. Clockedile also stated that throughout this process there would be topics that would need to be revisited and discussed more than once and many issues would require discussion between the time they are presented and the time they are voted on.

Mr. McIntosh raised a question regarding the decision make process for the RPC. A discussion ensued regarding how voting would take place. It was determined that a quorum of 3 of 4 SAU's were required to vote. However, the final plan would need to be a unanimous vote by all 4 SAU's. Mr. Shaw brought up the issue of when the individual SAU RPC's would meet. Mr. Clockedile explained that the individual RPC's could meet whenever it was convenient. It was also stated that many issues would need to be presented at one meeting and decided at another to give members time to discuss.

At this time Mr. Osgood turned the meeting over to Mr. Clockedile to address the group prior to the sub-committees convening to begin the group work. Groups were advised to begin with something easy to have early success, but to make sure the more difficult issues addressed early enough to be completed.

Mr. Clockedile presented 4 sample consolidation plans from around the state for groups to use as a reference tool. One plan has already been approved by the DOE and by referendum; one has been approved by the DOE but has not gone to the people for their vote and two plans have not been submitted to the Department yet. Mr. Keenan offered to make copies of the plan that had been approved by the citizens so that each sub-committee would have a copy.

At 7:00 pm groups were instructed to split into their assigned sub-committees to begin work. The entire committee was told to reconvene at 8:30 pm. Mr. Osgood also requested that a spokesperson for each SAU be determined and he asked to have those names before the end of the meeting.

At this point it was noted that there have been changes to the membership for sub-committees. Sub-Committee membership is as follows:

Governance: Norm Trask (Easton); Jerry Dow (MSAD #45); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Nate Smith (MSAD #42); Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater) {no changes}

Finance: Mike Corey (Easton); Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45); Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42); Terri Allen (Bridgewater); James McClay (MSAD #42)

Contracts/Educational Planning: Duska Kingsbury (Bridgewater); Greg Day (MSAD #42); Tom Osgood (Easton); Daren Churchill (MSAD #45); Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45)

Disposition of Property: Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45); Dave Hopkins (Easton); Todd Grass (MSAD #42); Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater)

Mr. Osgood called on members to reconvene to full committee at 8:35 pm. At that time sub-committee spokesmen gave their individual reports as follows:

Finance Committee: Spokesperson Mike McIntosh reported that the Finance Committee had had good discussion with some tentative options which will be presented at the next meeting. Their plan is to obtain more information from the SAU's for the next meeting.

Disposition of Property: Spokesperson Todd Grass reported that the Disposition of Property Committee reviewed the VFA reports on each SAU to determine the viability of all buildings. They discussed current and planned use for the buildings. They will be working to obtain deeds and blueprints to review at the next meeting.

Contracts/Educational Planning: Spokesperson Greg Day reported that the Contracts/Education Planning Committee spent their time comparing salary scales, seniority, low- mid- and upper range salary averages, and other common factors in the master teacher contracts for the individual SAU's. They will be obtaining additional information from the SAU's regarding health insurance benefits, sick days, retirement and stipend positions to review for the next meeting.

Governance: Spokesperson Norm Trask reported that the Governance Committee discussed the population of the individual SAU's to determine possible percentage representation of the new governing board. They are struggling with the issue of how the distribution will be determined, weighted votes and other matters. It was requested that the Governance Committee members discuss matters with the members of their local RPC's to determine their opinions. The committee plans to continue discussions at the next meeting.

After all sub-committee reports had been given, Mr. Osgood asked if there were any additional comments or questions from the group. There were none. He proposed the date of 7/2/08 for the next scheduled meeting; however, that being the week of the 4th of July holiday, it was a conflict for numerous members. It was then suggested that 7/9/08 would be better and the committee also requested that a 2nd meeting be scheduled at this time to better enable members to adjust their calendars if necessary. The following meeting will be held on 7/16/08. Both meetings will be held at the Easton Elementary cafeteria and will begin at 6:00 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm by Chairperson, Tom Osgood.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	ninab@stepstones4youth.org
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD #42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD #42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD #42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD #42	425-5301	gskkday@verizon.net
Carolee Hallett	MSAD #42	425-2242	carolee@07me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD #42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD #45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD #45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, July 9, 2008
6:00 PM
Easton Elementary Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. New Business Items
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
4. Public Comment Period
5. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
6. Approval of Minutes of 6/11/08 meeting
7. Approval of Minutes of 6/18/08 meeting
8. Report on Drummond Woodsum Workshop of June 19
9. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
10. Move to Sub-Committee work time ~ 1830
11. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
12. Other discussion items?
13. Facilitator summary comments
14. Next meeting date confirmation – 16 July 2008?
15. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
16. Adjourn ~ 2100

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
July 9, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria
(Revised – see highlighted area)

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Nina Bradstreet; Duska Kingsbury; Ellen Schneider, Asst. Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: Dave Hopkins; Mike Corey; Tom Osgood; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Nate Smith, James McClay; Todd Grass, Carolee Hallett

MSAD #45: Andrea Powers; Daren Churchill; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Michael McIntosh, Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kim Hall, Recording Secretary; Roger Sherman, Maine State Senator District #34

Members Absent: Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45); Jan Grieco (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater Liaison); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45); Roger Shaw (MSAD #42 Liaison); Norm Trask (Easton)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Chairperson, Tom Osgood.
2. New Business:
 - a. Media Release – No comments.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – no adjustments.
4. Public Comment – No public comments.
5. Discussion/Questions:
 - a. Greg Day (MSAD #42) commented that there are several more approved plans posted on the DOE website.
 - b. Tom Osgood (Easton) commented that Falmouth has pulled their approved plan to change to an Alternative Plan.
 - c. Todd Grass (MSAD #42) stated that he had spoken to someone from the Houlton area who told him that they are having a difficult time with their plan because of the vast geographical area they are trying to consolidate.
6. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2008 meeting. Approved 16-0.

7. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2008 meeting. Approved 15-0-1.
8. Report on Drummond, Woodsum workshop of 6/19, "School Reorganization 2008: Changes that Affect Reorganization Planning" by Jake Clockedile.

Mr. Clockedile gave a short synopsis of the major point of the workshop. He stated that the main points covered were Alternative Organizational Structures and the revisions to the consolidation law.

There was discussion of the timeline for submission of the plan to the Commissioner being November 1st based on the assumption that review of the plan at the state level would take up to 30 days; however, turnaround time for review and return of plans has historically only taken up to 14 days with RSU's generally able to make changes and return the plan for approval within 3 days.

Mr. Clockedile also cautioned members to be aware that the rules for a referendum vote differ for SAD's and municipalities. SAD's require 45 days notice for a referendum vote, whereas the requirements differ for municipalities. He encouraged members to contact their town clerks to determine what the individual requirements are for the municipalities.

One of the changes in the consolidation law states that existing bargaining units may stay in existence for up to three years, but by August 2012 a decision needs to be made to consolidate contracts.

Mr. Clockedile emphasized that once a plan is approved the existing joint school boards must hire an interim secretary who will be responsible for all aspects of the election process for the new RSU board.

Also, if there is a union group that covers a majority of particular support staff classification, the remaining unrepresented employees will be absorbed by the existing union. Mr. Keenan requested clarification with regard to multi-year contracts vs. unions. Mr. Clockedile stated that the contract will be honored before the union absorbs the other employees or a vote for union representation needs to be held.

Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42) requested clarification with regard to the difference in timeline requirements between SAD's and municipalities. Mr. Clockedile stated that SAD's and municipalities are governed by different laws.

9. Sub-Committee questions/concerns:
 - a. Mr. Clockedile stated that he had again brought copies of approved plans and a completed organizational chart for one new RSU for use by sub-committees.
 - b. Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42) requested that if anyone knew of any petitions that had been gathered at the June primaries, Skip Greenlaw would like them ASAP so that they can be submitted to the state on or before August 15. She went on to state that Skip is very close to having the 55,000 signatures required to force a referendum vote.
10. Members broke out into sub-committee groups at 6:30 pm.
11. Reports of Sub-Committees:
 - a. Contracts/Educational Planning: Spokesperson Mr. Day (MSAD #42) reported that this sub-committee is moving along nicely. They have completed comparisons of salaries and insurance

costs if each district's teachers were to move to Easton's contract numbers. The committee plans to do a similar comparison for support staff and should have a draft at the next meeting for full committee review.

- b. Finance: Spokesperson Mr. McIntosh (MSAD #45) reported that the Finance Committee is still in the process of collecting information. There has been some discussion regarding cost-sharing and the committee is finding that this will be very difficult to determine. At some point the Finance and Contract sub-committees will have to meet together and collaborate.
- c. Disposition of Property: Spokesperson Mr. Grass (MSAD #42) reported that it is the consensus of this sub-committee that all current school remain open and they should have a draft ready for the next meeting as to what each district is planning for their individual properties, the draft will then be presented to the committee for review.
- d. Governance: Alternate Spokesperson Mr. Dow (MSAD #45) reported that the Governance committee is making progress in determining the size of the new RSU board and the possibility of a weighted voting procedure. They plan to also have a draft ready for presentation at the next meeting.

12. Other Discussion Item:

- a. Mr. Clockedile questioned who would be responsible for creating the draft documents from each sub-committee for presentation to the full committee. Mr. Osgood stated that Mrs. Hall will be responsible for typing and distribution, the committee agreed.
- b. Mr. Osgood (Easton) asked if there had been any conversations with MSAD #20 with regard to their leaving their current RPC to join us. Mr. Keenan stated that he had spoken with Superintendent Gendron who asked if our RPC was looking at an (alternative organizational structure) of governance, but not about that particular subject. Mr. Clockedile explained that, if MSAD #20 were to want to change their RSU, MSAD #20 would have to make a request of our RPC to join. Our RPC would have to approve that request unanimously. New letters of intent would have to be submitted to the Commissioner from each district and be approved again.

- 13. Facilitator Summary comments: Mr. Clockedile stated that he would obtain the financial template from the Department of Education for our RPC. He will send the template to Mr. Osgood and/or Mrs. Hall to be distributed to the committee members.
- 14. Next meeting date: The next meeting date was confirmed for July 16, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the Easton Elementary cafeteria. Approved by consensus.
- 15. Next Meeting suggested/additional agenda items: No additions requested.
- 16. Meeting was adjourned by Mr. Osgood at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
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Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	ninab@stepstones4youth.org
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Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	r-richardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
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Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
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James McClay	MSAD #42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD #42	425-5301	gskkday@verizon.net
Carolee Hallett	MSAD #42	425-2242	carolee@07me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD #42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD #45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD #45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcocochran@ainop.com
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Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, 16 July 2008 @ 1800
Easton Elementary Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. New Business Items
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
4. Public Comment Period
5. Facilitator updates/comments
6. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
7. Approval of Minutes of 09 July 2008 meeting
8. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
9. Move to Sub-Committee work time ~ 1830
10. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
11. Other discussion items?
12. Facilitator summary comments
13. Next meeting date confirmation – 6 August 2008
14. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
15. Adjourn ~ 2100

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
July 16, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Nina Bradstreet; Duska Kingsbury; Butch Richardson

Easton: Mike Corey; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: James McClay; Todd Grass; Carole Hallett; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Michael McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kim Hall, Recording Secretary; Fred Boyd, Principal MSAD #42

Members Absent: Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45); Greg Day (MSAD #42); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Dave Hopkins (Easton); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater Liaison); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Ellen Schneider (Bridgewater Liaison); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45); Nate Smith (MSAD #42); Norm Trask (Easton)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co-Vice Chairperson, Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45).
2. New business – none.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – none.
4. Public comment – none.
5. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile
 - a. RSU election – there has been some confusion regarding the election process for a new RSU board. Laws in different towns and districts differ and sometimes conflict. A uniform timeline and process will be sent out next week by the State.
 - b. Committee Work – recommendation that the Contract Sub-Committee begin to work on a draft organizational structure for the new RSU including number of positions, titles, etc.
 - c. Sample plan – Jake brought a sample plan for review that has not yet been adopted, but does include attorney feedback.
6. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting – None.

7. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Mike Corey (Easton) to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2008 meeting. Approved 13-0.
8. Sub-Committee questions/concerns – none.
9. Members broke out into sub-committee groups at 6:20 pm.
10. Return to full committee at 8:20 pm. Reports of Sub-Committees:
 - a. Contracts/Educational Planning: Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45) reported that the Contracts/Educational Planning Sub-Committee is continuing to review contracts. They had some good discussions, but sub-committee members from Easton and MSAD #42 were absent so there was little progress made. He requested budget information from each district to be utilized in the information review and development of a draft organizational chart.
 - b. Finance: Mike Corey (Easton) reported that the Finance Sub-Committee is continuing to collect data but that it will be a long process. Mr. Clockedile gave a presentation regarding the financial templates to help the sub-committee understand the process necessary for cost-sharing. The sub-committee is continuing to review budgets, insurance carriers, scholarship accounts, etc.
 - c. Disposition of Property: Todd Grass (SAD #42) reported that the Disposition of Property Sub-Committee has not made much progress since the last meeting. Several members were absent so information pertinent to their districts was not available to discuss. The membership of this sub-committee does not feel that there will need to be many changes with regard to property as the use of the buildings, equipment, buses, etc. will not be changing. The sub-committee hopes to have a draft completed to submit to the full committee at the next meeting.
 - d. Governance: Jerry Dow (MSAD #45) reported that the Governance Sub-Committee is working on a proposal to present at the next meeting, but was also missing several members at this meeting making progress difficult.
11. Other Discussion Items – none.
12. Facilitator Summary Comments: Jake Clockedile

Mr. Clockedile asked those members present to talk to their absent members and strongly encourage attendance and participation because this committee is at a critical point where every effort needs to be made to get draft proposals completed and approved because November will be here very quickly and it is not a lot of time to get everything that is necessary accomplished.

He encouraged members to enlist the help of their Superintendents in working proposals once concepts have been determined. He also encouraged members to review the approved plans posted on the DOE website and to feel free to “steal language” from those plans wherever possible. He also stated that the Drummond Woodsum template is often used when drafting plans.

13. Next meeting date: There was some discussion regarding the date for the next meeting. It is difficult to find a date that works for everyone, so the date was determined by consensus. The next meeting will be held on August 6, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria. The date for the following meeting is tentatively set for August 20, 2008. Approved by consensus.

14. Next Meeting Suggested/Additional Agenda Items – no additions requested.

15. Motion by Jerry Dow (MSAD #45), 2nd by Mike Corey (Easton) to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Approved 13-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
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Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
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Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
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Edward Buckley*	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, August 6, 2008
6:00 PM
Easton Elementary Cafeteria

1. Call to Order
2. New Business
3. Adjustments to the agenda
4. Public comment
5. Attendance
6. Facilitator Update/Comments
7. Updates from Superintendents
8. Approve minutes of the July 16, 2008 meeting
9. Subcommittee questions/concerns
10. Breakout to subcommittee work
11. Subcommittee reports
12. Facilitator summary comments
13. Next meeting date
14. Suggested additional agenda items
15. Adjourn

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
August 06, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Nina Bradstreet; Duska Kingsbury

Easton: Norman Trask; Tom Osgood; Dave Hopkins; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Nathan Smith; James McClay; Greg Day; Todd Grass; Carolee Hallett; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Andrea Powers; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Michael McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator)

Members Absent: Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater Liaison); Ellen Schneider (Bridgewater Liaison); Mike Corey (Easton); Daren Churchill (MSAD #45); Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Chairperson, Tom Osgood (Easton).
2. New business – none.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – none requested.
4. Public comment – none.
5. Attendance taken by Frank Keenan (Easton).
6. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile reported on several pieces of new information.
 - a. Mr. Clockedile stated that the Department has chosen Infinite Campus as their IT/Database platform and that RSU districts that are approved and formed will have access to the entire Infinite Campus system **free of any charges** for software, hardware, maintenance, et al. This is a web based software service and initially it will include state reporting, student records, and the software will eventually include Special Education and health services modules. The Department is also considering adding Transportation/Bus Routing (GIS based) software modules as they get further along in the process. This could be a significant savings depending upon a School Unit's existing platform. More information will be forthcoming on this topic this fall.

- b. The Commissioner has clarified questions about the timing of the penalty for failure to consolidate. Any community that has failed to consolidate and is thus out of compliance on February 1, 2009 is subject to the penalties. If communities that are out of compliance at that point are still working in good faith to find partners and are thus performing due diligence, they won't have their monthly subsidy withheld.
 - c. After reviewing the financial and structural makeup of our RSU, Mr. Clockedile states that he doesn't see any significant savings for the first 2 or 3 years. However, he believes that, over time, there will be significant savings due to efficiencies possible as a consolidated district that won't be there if the SAU's remain separate.
 - d. A discussion occurred about the comparison of the penalties that the districts face with the costs of merging the teacher and hourly wage contract costs.
 - e. Mr. Clockedile brought more approved plans to be used as models for subcommittee work.
 - f. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting – None.
- 7. Updates by SAU Superintendents. Mr. Osgood asked if the Superintendents present wanted to update the group on anything new. No updates were given.
 - 8. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42) to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2008 meeting. Approved unanimously.
 - 9. Subcommittee questions/concerns – none.
 - 10. Members broke out into subcommittee groups at 6:30 pm to work on their areas of the plans.
 - 11. Return to full committee at 8:35 pm. Reports of Subcommittees:
 - a. Governance: Norman Trask (Easton) spoke on the progress of the Governance Subcommittee discussions. Norm reported that the group reviewed several plans adopted by other RPC groups as guides to their discussions and that his group discussed the various sections of the plan that they were responsible for presenting to the full group. They worked through a proposal for the size of the new RSU board and the number of representatives for each community and how much weight each board member will have in their votes. Their proposal will allow for at least one board member from each town. The votes of each will be weighted by the number of people they represent. The subcommittee also discussed the strategy to follow if one or more communities vote no on the final plan and will present that strategy for discussion.

At this juncture, Mr. Clockedile interjected news that the Commissioner had received a ruling from the Attorney General that if some communities vote no on the final plan and, as a result, those who vote yes don't have enough population to comply with the law, then they will be subject to the penalty as well as the towns who vote no.

Mr. Clockedile also informed the group that the State's new information system will be installed in those districts who complete their plans and vote to consolidate first, those not approved or who vote no will be the last to receive access to the system. He noted that every district, whether

consolidated or not, will need at least one person highly trained in technology to work on this information system successfully.

Lastly, he informed the group that a consultant named Lori LaChance was preparing a PowerPoint presentation for the state that would show the demographic, population and financial challenges facing the state that she feels makes consolidation essential.

Mr. Clockedile reminded the group that we are required, by law, to submit a progress report to the commissioner by August 15, 2008. He stated there are currently 6 consolidation plans that have been approved by the Commissioner. A question was asked of Mr. Clockedile about what were the options available to the communities who vote no on the plan—he stated:

- 1) Take the penalty and remain alone
- 2) Go back and work with partners to see if the plan can be revised so that it would be approved
- 3) Look for new possible partners to develop a plan with

Mr. Trask then continued with his report stating that the group had spent some time discussing whether local boards should be part of the plan, and if so, the level of authority that would be optimal. He pointed out the dilemma facing most communities—if there is no local board or a local board with little authority, it may lead to the plan being defeated. If there is a local board with strong authority, if the plan is adopted, it could lead to serious conflicts between the local boards and the new RSU board. His committee will be looking for input from the full committee at future meetings.

- b. Contracts/Educational Planning: Greg Day (SAD #42) reported for the Contracts/Educational Planning Subcommittee. His group had reviewed all administrative contracts and master contracts for teachers and hourly wage staff. They spent a lot of time discussing ways to find savings in the 4 areas the state has proposed savings to be found: a) district & building administration; b) transportation; c) building maintenance & d) Special Education.

They are looking for more information from SAD #1 concerning the vocational school there which receives students from each of our districts for part of their academic programs. They are in the process of creating a draft proposal of new RSU district administration for discussion purposes.

- c. Disposition of Property: Todd Grass (SAD #42) reported for the Disposition of Property subcommittee. He stated that they found the Sheepscot Valley RPC plan to be very helpful and had everything their group was looking for. It has already been approved by Drummond Woodsum so it will pass legal muster. SAD #45 will be holding a town meeting to determine how they want their property to be managed and controlled if part of a new RSU. Easton needs to determine what part of the property is school use mainly and what part is to be considered town use first. Bridgewater's decision will depend on a possible vote to close their school.
- d. Finance: Mike McIntosh (SAD #45) reported that their subcommittee had reviewed proposed language on the dispositions of trust funds, reserve funds, scholarship funds and student activity funds. They presented a handout with their proposed language for review by the full RSU committee. He stated that at this time there is no litigation pending against any of the districts. Mr. Clockedile stated that if any such litigation presented itself prior to the completed plan being presented to the commissioner, all RPC members should be informed and a plan voted on how the new RSU would deal with potential financial implications. Mr. Clockedile also noted that we

should each review with our insurance company the possibility of coverage this year to cover possible litigation that may occur from events before the RSU is formed, but not fully litigated until after the new RSU is formed and the old SAU's dissolved.

e. Other Discussion Items – none.

12. Facilitator Summary Comments: Jake Clockedile

Mr. Clockedile praised the group for the quality and quantity of work completed during the evening. Tom Osgood asked if Kim Hall could use the Sheepscot Valley plan as a format to follow as the RPC started making formal approval in the various aspects of the plan. Mr. Clockedile felt that would make an excellent format for Kim to use to build a copy of our plan.

13. Next meeting date: Mr. Osgood asked if the group wanted the next meeting to be held in Easton or in one of the other districts to give public in other districts the chance for input and to observe the process. The consensus was to continue in Easton until significant amounts of the plan were voted by the RPC and then hold meetings in the other districts to inform and receive feedback. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the Easton Elementary School Cafeteria. Approved by consensus.

14. Next Meeting Suggested/Additional Agenda Items -- addition of Governance Committee report on retaining local School Boards in addition to RSU BOD -- pros/cons discussion to get input from entire RSU Committee.

15. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank Keenan
Interim Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
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Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
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Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD #45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, August 20, 2008
6:00 PM
Easton Elementary Cafeteria

1. Call to Order
2. New Business
3. Adjustments to the agenda
4. Public comment
5. Facilitator Update/Comments
6. Updates from Superintendents
7. Governance Committee Presentation
8. Discussion/questions since last meeting
9. Approve minutes of the August 6, 2008 meeting
10. Breakout to subcommittee work
11. Comments from the Chair
12. Next meeting date
13. Adjourn

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting

August 20, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Ellen Schneider, Asst. Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: Mike Corey; Dave Hopkins; Tom Osgood; Norman Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Todd Grass; Carolee Hallett; Jamie McClay, Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Mike McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator)

Members Absent: Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater); Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater-Supt. Liaison); Duska Kingsbury (Bridgewater); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Cary Schumaker (MSAD #45)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Chairperson, Tom Osgood (Easton).
2. New business – none.
3. Adjustments to the agenda:
 - a. Financial report presented by Superintendent Frank Keenan. Report was reviewed prior to the meeting by Chairperson Tom Osgood and Co Vice-Chairs, Greg Day and Mike McIntosh. Beginning balance of \$5000. Cost of refreshments for RPC meetings held on 6/11, 6/18, 7/9, 7/16 & 8/6 came to a total of \$421.50. The cost of secretarial preparation and taking of the RPC minutes for the meetings held on 6/18, 7/9, 7/16 & 8/6 came to a total of \$221.40. Total expenditures to date of \$642.90. Remaining balance in account is \$4357.10.
 - b. Mr. Clockedile prepared a possible cost-sharing proposal for the group. The proposal was distributed as a handout and Mr. Clockedile presented the information to the whole group as a PowerPoint. In his proposal, Mr. Clockedile had a section that determined what percent each community had in the new RSU in a number of categories. Those categories used were valuation, number of pupils, amount raised in additional local, total budget in the RSU and the average of all categories listed.

Mr. Clockedile chose to base his proposal on the current budgets in the SAU's. His rationale being that this information was known and valid, and to base a proposal totally on future years would be basing on assumptions that would prove inaccurate in most cases.

Mr. Clockedile pointed out that the cost sharing arrangements that RPC's could develop could only impact the money raised above EPS (additional local) in each SAU. He proposed, as a starting point for the groups discussion, to have each SAU keep all costs directly produced by them for the first three years of the new RSU (FY10-FY12), so there would be no cost shifting for those three years. He proposed for the next three years (FY13-FY15) that the costs of dollars above EPS be shared by the following: each district (community) will be totally responsible for 75% of their costs created above EPS; the remaining 25% of costs will be shared by taking the average of the percent of valuation the district has in the RSU and the percent of the total additional local raised above EPS by the SAU and multiplying that average percentage by the amount of additional local that constitutes 25% of the above EPS. That amount would be added to the 75% of additional local dollars. That would result in \$40,154 dollars of cost to Easton being shifted in a shared manner to the other communities of the RSU during the FY13-FY16 fiscal years. This will be a starting point for the RPC's discussion at future meetings as they work to resolve and create an acceptable cost sharing relationship for the new RSU. Mr. Clockedile pointed out that he chose this format because it caused the smallest cost shift after 6 years of \$160,000 compared to the following shifts if other percentages and methods were used:

1. % of pupils alone - \$825,008 cost shift
2. % of valuation alone - \$321,554 cost shift
3. % of overall budget alone - \$653,542 cost shift
4. % of community population alone - \$839,694 cost shift
5. % of carry over alone - \$1,020,468 cost shift

All significantly more than the \$160,000 using Mr. Clockedile's proposal.

4. Public comment – none

5. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile reported on several pieces of new information.

- a. Mr. Clockedile briefed the committee on the latest penalty to impact any communities that vote not to consolidate. Along with the financial penalties that will be imposed, the State Board of Education has enacted a penalty against communities who fail to consolidate if/when they apply for new school construction funds. The penalty will be 20 points deducted from the scoring of their application that will essentially eliminate them from consideration.
- b. Mr. Clockedile pointed out that the Houlton Area RSU, which has 27 towns with 81 RPC members, has completed their plan and submitted the plan to Commissioner Gendron for her approval.
- c. All plans must be voted on by January 30, 2009 necessitating that ours be complete and approved by our boards by the end of October in order to submit to the Commissioner and have it approved 45 days before the 30th of January.
- d. Mr. Clockedile pointed out the necessity of a transition team. This team will need to be chosen following the vote on January 30th if the RSU has been approved by the voters. The transition team will do things such as propose a new name for the RSU, develop a new social security 218 plan for the RSU, deal with transfer of E-rate accounts, obtain a new tax identification number. This work cannot wait for the vote to choose a new RSU board and Superintendent

6. Updates by SAU Superintendents--No updates were given.
7. Governance Committee Presentation:
 - a. Norm Trask, Chair of the Governance Committee, presented their proposal for a new board. It would be a 14 member board with the following representation:

Blaine – 2; Bridgewater – 1; Easton – 3; Mars Hill – 3; Perham – 1; Wade – 1; Washburn – 3

There was also a proposal for the staggering of elections in those communities with more than one board member.
 - b. The committee proposes using weighted vote as the method of voting on the board. As a result each member will have the following weights to their votes:

Blaine (398), Bridgewater (607), Easton (417), Mars Hill (493), Perham (434), Wade (250), Washburn (542).
 - c. The Governance Committee recommends that there be no local boards. There was unanimous support from the total committee to support **NO** local boards in the plan.
 - d. The Governance Committee presented a plan as to how the RPC would proceed if the plan is voted down in any community.
 1. If the only community to vote no was Bridgewater then the remaining districts would move forward with consolidation. The RPC would reconvene to make necessary adjustments in the plan to deal with the loss of Bridgewater.
 2. If any other SAU votes no on the plan, then the plan will not be able to be used. The RPC will reconvene to determine what, if anything, could and should be done.
 - e. The Governance Committee presented a timetable for reorganization (consolidation) to be reviewed and discussed. Mr. Clockedile pointed out things in the timetable that needed to be changed to comply with the law. The committee will revise and present at the next RPC meeting.
8. Discussion/Questions since last meeting—
 - a. There was an extensive discussion concerning the powers/duties that could be given to a local board and the implications of our plan either allowing or not allowing for local boards. Full committee voted not to include local boards in the plan.
 - b. Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater) asked where the penalty could be found in a community voted against consolidation—that information is on the Department of Education website.
9. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Todd Grass (MSAD #42) to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2008 meeting. Approved unanimously.
10. Members broke out into subcommittee groups for a brief work session at 8:35 pm to work on their areas of the plans.

Return to full committee at 8:55 pm.

11. Final comments from Chairman Osgood – indicated that his subcommittee planned to meet before the next RPC meeting to prepare some proposals. He encouraged other subcommittees to do the same.
12. Next meeting date: September 3, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Easton Elementary School cafeteria.
13. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank Keenan
Interim Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	ninab@stepstones4youth.org
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD #42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD #42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD #42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD #42	425-5301	gskkday@verizon.net
Carolee Hallett	MSAD #42	425-2242	carolee@07me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD #42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD #45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD #45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

CENTRAL AROOSTOOK REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance for incidental expenses:			\$5,000.00	
Expenses:				Explanation:
	Star City IGA/Wal-Mart		\$80.66	Refreshments 6/11 mtg.
	Star City IGA/Wal-Mart		\$93.04	Refresments 6/18 mtg.
	Easton School Dept		\$65.60	Clerical Support 6/18 mtg
	Star City IGA/WalMart		\$100.51	Refreshments 7/9 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$65.60	Clerical Support 7/9 mtg
	Wal-Mart		\$75.91	Refreshments 7/16 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$57.40	Clerical Support 7/16 mtg
	Easton School Lunch		\$71.38	Refreshments 8/6 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$32.80	Clerical Support 8/6 minutes/plan doc
Total Expenses			\$642.90	
Remaining Balance (11/03/08):			\$4,357.10	
Beginning Balance for legal expenses:			\$2,500.00	
Expenses:				
	none		\$0.00	
Total Expenses			\$2,500.00	
Remaining Balance:			\$2,500.00	

Presented/approved
8/20/08

Respectfully Submitted:

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary/Bookkeeper

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, 03 September 2008 @ 1800

Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. New Business Items
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
4. Public Comment Period
5. Facilitator updates/comments
6. Superintendant comments/reports
7. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
8. Approval of Minutes of 20 August 2008 meeting
9. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
10. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
11. Move to Sub-Committee work time
12. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
13. Other discussion items?
14. Facilitator summary comments
15. Next meeting date/location confirmation – 17 September 2008/EES
16. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
17. Adjourn ~ 2100

**Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
September 3, 2008
6:00 pm**

Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Wayne Bradbury; Duska Kingsbury

Easton: Mike Corey; Dave Hopkins; Norman Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Todd Grass; Jamie McClay, Nate Smith

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Mike McIntosh; Andrea Powers; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary; Fred Boyd (Principal MSAD #42)

Members Absent: Terri Allen (Bridgewater); Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater-Supt. Liaison); Tom Osgood (Easton); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Ellen Schneider (Bridgewater-Supt. Liaison); Cary Schumaker (MSAD #45); Roger Shaw (MSAD #42-Supt. Liaison)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co Vice-Chairperson, Greg Day (MSAD #42).
2. New business – none.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – none
4. Public comment – none
5. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile
 - a. Mr. Clockedile explained that if there is a unit entering into a new RSU that has a large unallocated balance; it can be written into the plan that the balance be used to reduce local tax assessment over a number of years rather than using the entire balance at once. But the plan to do this must be written into the plan.
 - b. Mr. Clockedile reiterated that any plan that includes a process to amend the cost sharing arrangement or any other portion of the plan must also include wording that states that any amendment would require approval by the Commissioner.
 - c. Mr. Clockedile gave a brief summary of the current status of plans throughout the state.

There are currently:

11 Exempt SAU's (8 island school administrative units and 3 Maine Indian Education Units.

34 Alternative plans (33 have been approved by the Commissioner and 1 is still in progress)—[*these are districts that are large enough that they don't have to consolidate*]

41 Reorganization plans

7 have been approved by the Commissioner (3 approved by voters/4 need voter approval)

10 have been submitted and are awaiting review by the Department or revisions by the RPC

24 additional plans are in progress

Mr. Clockedile went on to say that there are still 9 communities that have no plan, no partners and no prospects.

Mr. Keenan asked about those alternative plans that did not show a reduction in costs but were still approved, if we don't consolidate do we have the option to file a similar plan. Mr. Clockedile said that would not be an option, we would be penalized.

- d. Mr. Clockedile reminded the group that the "safe date" to have a plan ready is November 14, 2008 in order to be ready for a January vote.

Greg Day asked if there was any more information regarding the Attorney General's ruling about one community dropping out of a group causing penalties for everyone in the group. Mr. Clockedile stated that he would look into this and try to find actual documentation of the ruling.

Mr. Keenan asked if the DOE's position was not aligned with the Attorney Generals ruling, would they push to have it changed. Mr. Clockedile said that would make sense, but he could not speak for the Department.

6. Superintendent comments/reports – none.

7. Discussion/questions since last meeting – none.

8. Motion by Mike Corey (Easton), 2nd by Norm Trask (Easton) to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2008 meeting as presented. Approved unanimously.

9. Sub-Committee questions/concerns:

Contract/Education: Greg Day stated that Tom Osgood had some needed information for the sub-committee to review. Mr. Keenan presented the required information on Administrative expenses and contracted services for Easton and MSAD #42. MSAD #45 information was also given.

Norm Trask asked about the plan for the Houlton area because it seemed like that plan came together quite quickly and he wondered if maybe this committee was working too slowly. Mr. Clockedile informed the group that the Houlton plan had been in the works for quite awhile. He then urged the group again to utilize plans that have already been created to save time and work.

Mr. Keenan asked the group as a whole what their sense was of their respective communities with regard to the feeling about this process.

MSAD #45 – split – some really supportive and others against
MSAD #42—very apprehensive

Bridgewater – a strong base that had advocated the break from MSAD #42 – leery of joining another SAD

Easton - general feeling that the community is against

Tim Humphrey noted that many community members are basing their opinions on what they are reading in the media so it is extremely important that our plan be done well and explained to the public so that the voters can understand exactly what they are voting for or against.

Wayne Bradbury noted that many people just want to know “what will happen if we don’t consolidate?” and we only know what the penalty will be for the first year. Mr. Clockedile stated that the penalty will probably increase each year based on valuation, but that is not known at this time.

Tim Humphrey reminded the group that there are many pros to the consolidation idea. There is the possibility to increase efficiency and share resources. Mr. Clockedile asked the group to keep in mind that student population for this group has dropped 15% in the past 10 years, if the trend continues for the next 10 years; the entire student population for this proposed RSU would be only 750 students. He stated that this group needs to look at the feasibility of being able to sustain their individual school systems without consolidating and whether the chance of maintaining the schools would be better as a consolidated group.

Tim Humphrey went on to say that creating a plan that showed the weaknesses in the law may give legislators more “teeth” to make changes.

Mr. Keenan stated that in order to have a plan pass with the voters, it would need to mitigate the increase in salaries. Mr. Clockedile said that one group laid out a 7 year plan of transition to deal with salary leveling.

Mike Corey asked about plans having a safety net pertaining to increases and decreases in costs. Mr. Clockedile one group had in their plan that if one community showed a decrease while others showed an increase, half of the decrease would be distributed to the other communities to offset the increases.

10. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date – none.
11. Members broke out into subcommittee groups for a work session at 6:43 pm to work on their areas of the plans.

Return to full committee at 8:34 pm.

12. Reports of Sub-Committees:

Finance: Mike McIntosh presented proposed language for Section 8 of the plan with regards to Trust Funds, Scholarship Funds, Reserve Funds and Ownership of such funds. Draft was reviewed by the committee, motion to call a vote by Mike Corey (Easton), 2nd by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), and results as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

Greg Day reminded the committee to make sure any drafts submitted include the section of the plan they represent. Mr. McIntosh said he would add the section number to the document and email it to Kim for insertion into the plan document.

Mr. McIntosh also reported that the Finance Sub-Committee is planning to meet next week for additional work.

Contracts/Educational Planning: Greg Day reported that the Contract sub-committee is planning to meet next Wednesday to complete their draft document. They feel that they have all the necessary information; it just needs to be organized and put into a written draft.

Governance: Norm Trask discussed a draft regarding the make up of the new RSU Board, weighted votes, method of voting, etc. An electronic draft will be sent via email to the committee with the plan to vote on it at the September 17 meeting.

Disposition of Property: Todd Grass presented a draft of Section 5.0 regarding disposition of real and personal school property. During sub-committee work two questions came up that needed clarification by the committee.

a. How will maintenance of property and vehicles be handled? After discussion, the general consensus of the group was that grounds maintenance would be handled by the new RSU, but that snow removal of school grounds would be handled by the Towns under an arrangement with the new RSU, that language will be written into the plan.

This question also brought up a concern regarding the deeds for the two school buildings in Easton. The Elementary School property is in the name of the Town of Easton while the High School property deed is in the name of the Easton School District. The "Easton School District" is not a legal entity so both deeds should be in the name of the Town of Easton. Mike Corey said he would bring the matter up at the Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday.

b. The Disposition of Property subcommittee would like to propose a recommendation for the New RSU to complete a Phase 1 Environmental Assessment within one year of formation as a baseline for future decisions. This was discussed by the group and approved by general consensus to include wording of such in the draft document for section 5.0.

13. **Other Discussion Items:**

Mr. Keenan reminded the group that, based on our current meeting schedule, there are only 4 more meetings before the "safe date" of November 14. He encouraged the sub-committees to meet together outside of the normal meeting times. Mr. Clockedile took this opportunity to discuss the meeting schedule for October. He stated that both he and Mr. Keenan will be away during the week of October 1. Discussion ensued and the group decided, by consensus, to plan to meet each Wednesday in October (with the exception of October 1) to ensure that the plan can be completed by the November 14 date. If the plan can be completed early, and all meetings are not found to be necessary, they can be canceled.

14. **Facilitator summary comments:** Mr. Clockedile stated that the next meeting (9/17) will be key for this group. It is important to start getting draft documents out to the committee for review and vote. He also reminded the group to work on explanations and exhibits to back up the language in the plan.

Mr. Clockedile also recommended that, once the plan is completed, it needs to be reviewed by an attorney and that takes approximately 2 weeks. That review, however, can take place simultaneously with review by the DOE and informational meetings within the communities. Greg Day questioned whether to use a local attorney for this. Both Mr. Clockedile and Norm Trask recommended using a firm that specializes in school law. Mr. Clockedile stated that there are several firms in the State that are familiar with the RSU process and that decision can be made as we get closer to completion.

Mr. Keenan asked if the informational meetings should be conducted in the individual towns by their own representatives to the RPC committee. Mr. Clockedile recommended doing it as a full committee so that each town is receiving the same information. He felt that doing a meeting in each community is recommended, but that there should be a team which includes representatives from each involved community making the presentations. Greg Day recommended that all meetings be held over the course of one week with the same PowerPoint presentation used for each meeting. Plan to discuss this more at the September 17 meeting.

15. Next meeting date: September 17, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Easton Elementary School cafeteria.
16. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	bradstreet@pioneercable.net
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD #42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD #42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD #42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD #42	425-5301	gregory.j.day@maine.org
Carolee Hallett	MSAD #42	425-2242	carolee@207me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD #42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD #45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD #45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, 17 September 2008 @ 1800

Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. New Business Items
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
4. Public Comment Period
5. Facilitator updates/comments
6. Superintendant comments/reports
7. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
8. Approval of Minutes of 03 September 2008 meeting
9. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
10. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
11. Move to Sub-Committee work time
12. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
13. Other discussion items?
14. Facilitator summary comments
15. Next meeting date/location confirmation – discussion
16. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
17. Adjourn ~ 2100

**Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
September 17, 2008**

6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Nina Bradstreet; Duska Kingsbury

Easton: Mike Corey; Dave Hopkins; Norman Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Todd Grass; Jamie McClay, Nate Smith

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Jerry Dow; Tim Humphrey; Mike McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary

Members Absent: Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater-Supt. Liaison); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Ellen Schneider (Bridgewater-Supt. Liaison); Cary Schumaker (MSAD #45); Roger Shaw (MSAD #42-Supt. Liaison); Nate Smith (MSAD #42)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co Vice-Chairperson, Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45).
2. New business – A financial report of RPC expenditures to date from the fiscal agent (Easton) was presented.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – none
4. Public comment – none
5. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile
 - a. Mr. Clockedile stated that he had attended a facilitator's meeting in Augusta earlier today. At the meeting the Commissioner gave an update on the progress in the consolidation process. Seven more plans were approved yesterday (including St. John Valley), seven more are pending and twenty are still in the working process
 - b. Mr. Clockedile also stated that the state is currently in the process of reviewing the chart of accounts to alleviate problems with consolidation. There are a number of issues surrounding the consolidation of districts that are using different accounting systems. Many are not compatible and it is causing many headaches when attempting to combine.
 - c. Mr. Clockedile stated that another issue that has come up is E-rate. He recommended that the plan included a provision about how E-rate will be handled. Mr. Keenan asked if any thought had been given to how consolidation would affect e-rate reimbursement. E-rate is based upon the poverty rate

of a district and wondered if consolidation would decrease the overall poverty rate resulting in a decrease in e-rate funds.

6. Superintendent comments/reports – none.
7. Discussion/questions since last meeting – Todd Grass (MSAD #42) asked if the debate regarding the wording on the deeds of the Easton school buildings had been resolved. Mike Corey (Easton) stated that one deed listed the inhabitants of the Town of Easton as owner and the other listed the Easton School District (an entity that does not legally exist). The issue had been discussed at the Selectmen meeting and a lawyer is working on it, but he stated that it would not be an issue and should not hinder the vote on the draft submitted by the Disposition of Property subcommittee.
8. Motion by Mike Corey (Easton), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2008 meeting with proposed changes by Dave Hopkins as presented. Approved unanimously.
9. Sub-Committee questions/concerns - none
10. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date:
 - a. Norm Trask presented draft documents for sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 13C and 13F from the Governance Subcommittee. Delegations will review the documents for a possible vote later in the evening.
 - b. Todd Grass presented draft documents for section 5 from the Disposition of Property Subcommittee. Delegations will review the documents for a possible vote later in the evening.
11. Members broke out into subcommittee groups for a work session at 6:25 pm to work on their areas of the plans. Plans were made to disband subcommittees at 8:15 pm to allow delegations to review draft documents for a possible vote. Group to reconvene at 8:30 pm.

Return to full committee at 8:34 pm.

At this point in the meeting, Mike McIntosh requested a postponement of voting on the draft documents that had been handed out because his delegation felt that they had not had enough time to go over them thoroughly and didn't feel they were ready to vote on them. He also recommended that voting be placed very early on the next agenda.

Tim Humphrey asked that any submission of drafts be done no later than one meeting prior to voting to allow for time to review.

Mike Corey requested that community delegations try to rely on their subcommittee membership as much as possible to streamline the voting process.

Voting on the draft documents submitted by the Governance and Disposition of Property Subcommittees postponed to the October 9 meeting by consensus.

12. Reports of Sub-Committees:

Finance: Mike McIntosh reported that the Finance Subcommittee is making progress and are right on the edge of agreements regarding the allocation of tax revenue. They plan to meet before the next regular meeting and hope to have draft documentation to distribute at the next meeting for review.

Contracts/Educational Planning: Greg Day reported that the Contract/Educational Planning Subcommittee is continuing to work on consolidating the tremendous amount of data that they have collected from the individual districts. They are planning to meeting prior to the next regular meeting to have a work session.

Governance: Done.

Disposition of Property: Done.

13. **Other Discussion Items:**

Greg Day recommended that the group begin the process of looking for legal help to review the final plan. He suggested that Norm Trask might be the likely candidate to begin the search for a legal firm to handle this. Mr. Clockedile said that the normal turnaround time for having legal review is around 2 weeks. Mr. Trask stated that he would be willing to begin looking into firms around the state who have some experience in this.

Mr. Keenan requested that the next regular meeting be held on Thursday, October 9, 2009 instead of Wednesday, October 8 due to a conflict with the Easton Board meeting. This was approved by consensus.

Mr. Clockedile suggested starting to plan for the public meetings as they need to be announced and promoted prior to holding them to encourage the greatest possible public participation. Mr. Keenan reminded the group that it would be better to hold the actual meeting as soon as the plan has been approved by the group. Otherwise the public won't see this group as a united entity which has created a workable plan.

Future meeting dates were discussed with a tentative plan to meet every week beginning with the October 9, 2009 meeting.

14. **Facilitator summary comments:** Mr. Clockedile requested an early slot on the next agenda for a presentation on State Finance & State Demographics from the Maine Development Foundation. Approved by consensus.

15. **Next meeting date:** Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Easton Elementary School cafeteria.

14. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
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Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD #42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD #42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD #42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD #42	425-5301	gregory.j.day@maine.org
Carolee Hallett	MSAD #42	425-2242	carolee@207me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD #42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD #45	455-4046	dschurchill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD #45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD #45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD #45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD #45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD #45	455-5865	tcocochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD #45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD #45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD #45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	Old Orchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee

Thursday, 9 October 2008 @ 1800
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. Jake Clockedile – Maine Development Foundation presentation
3. Voting:
 - a. Governance Committee documents
 - b. Disposition of Property documents
4. New Business Items
5. Adjustments to the Agenda
6. Public Comment Period
7. Facilitator updates/comments
8. Superintendent comments/reports
9. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
10. Approval of Minutes of 17 September 2008 meeting
11. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
12. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
13. Move to Sub-Committee work time
14. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
15. Other discussion items?
16. Facilitator summary comments
17. Next meeting date/location confirmation – discussion
18. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
19. Adjourn ~ 2100

October 9, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Nina Bradstreet; Butch Richardson; Ellen Schneider, Asst. Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: Mike Corey; Dave Hopkins; Norman Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Carolee Hallett; Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Tim Humphrey; Mike McIntosh

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary

Members Absent: Terri Allen (Bridgewater); Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater); Ed Buckley (MSAD #45 – Supt. Liaison); Daren Churchill (MSAD #45); Theresa Cochran (MSAD #45); Jerry Dow (MSAD #45); Todd Grass (MSAD #42); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson (Bridgewater-Supt. Liaison); Duska Kingsbury (Bridgewater); Jamie McClay (MSAD #42); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Cary Schumaker (MSAD #45)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co Vice-Chairperson, Greg Day (MSAD #42).
2. Jake Clockedile – Maine Development Foundation Presentation– The presentation was not available so will be tabled for two weeks.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – Carolee Hallett requested time for discussion of her view of the overall consolidation process. Mrs. Hallett stated that she felt that the process is very frustrating and seems like an impossible task. She recommended taking the approved plan from Dresden and make whatever changes were necessary and submitting it to the DOE for approval. She stated that, in her opinion, the petition to repeal consolidation will prevail and this whole process will be an act in futility.

Greg Day stated that he could understand Mrs. Hallett's point of view. He said that he had spent two vacation days going through all the information and the plans that have been approved and he feels that the process is overwhelming.

Butch Richardson interjected that Bridgewater has already done everything that the Dept. was looking for as far as cost savings are concerned by contracting out much of their Administrative duties to MSAD #1, and he felt that by consolidating Bridgewater would actually be forced to take those costs back.

Mr. Keenan agreed that it is a difficult task and that this group was up against time constraints because of the actions of the Department when the original proposal to consolidate was denied in error. However, he feels that no matter what is decided for a plan, the group must do their absolute best to make sure that it is

a plan that all of the communities can live with because the municipalities may vote to approve it and if the group submits a plan that they know will not work, then they are stuck with it.

Tim Humphrey stated that he felt that there were wonderful opportunities for our communities to reduce costs and operate more efficiently with the consolidation and that there are positives that can be achieved by this process.

Jack Clockedile gave his opinion that the petition being submitted will probably force a referendum; however, the area of dense population in Maine (50 mile radius of Portland) will most likely not vote down consolidation because they feel that there is too much money being funneled into rural schools that are too small to be efficient. He also stated that state subsidy outlooks for next year do not appear to be favorable. The state has already pushed back approved construction projects by one year in order to save 9 million dollars. When you compare 9 million to the 540 million budget then you know that the state is scrambling to save money wherever they can. State subsidies are likely to be cut and if the consolidation fails for this group, penalties will also be assessed and the additional required funding will have to be picked up by the taxpayers.

Nate Smith remarked that, from a selectman's point of view, it is not a good idea to rely on taxpayers for additional funding because with the economy many people are not able to pay their taxes and are taking up to 2 years in some cases to pay their taxes.

Mr. Keenan asked Jake how he felt we stood at the end of the last meeting and how much work we actually have left to complete the plan.

Mr. Clockedile said that the biggest hurdle left is the cost-sharing issue. The planned structure for central office, transportation/maintenance, Special Education and curriculum also needs to be worked out. He said that, with work, this can be completed in 3-4 weeks.

Carolee Hallett asked Mr. Clockedile how many AOS plans there are. He said there are currently 9, but he doesn't see how they are going to be fiscally possible.

Carolee then asked if those members who have completed their work would be willing to help work on the cost-sharing issue to try to get that completed. Several members agreed to that.

4. Voting:

a. Governance Committee documents:

Sections 1, 2, 3-4, 9, 11, 13c, 13f-g and timetable were discussed. Changes were recommended as follows:

1. Update census data to 2006 (2000 was used in error)
2. Transition team to be made up of at least one (1) member per community
3. Refer to population as section 3 instead of section 9-C
4. Remove Blaine from section 9 (not an SAU)
5. Change budget year in section 9 to 2009/2010

Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD#42), 2nd by Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater) to vote on documents with additional amendments. Results as follows:

Easton – approved

Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

(Documents will be revised and emailed to members for review)

b. Disposition of Property documents:

Section 5.

Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD#42), 2nd by Norm Trask (Easton) to approve as presented. Results as follows:

Easton – Approved
Bridgewater – Approved
MSAD #42 – Approved
MSAD #45 – Approved

5. New Business Items:

- a. Legal Review of Plan – Greg Day requested an update from Mortars on his research into an attorney or firm to review our plan. Norm stated that he had talked with Eric Herlan at Drummond/Woodsum who referred him to Bill Stockmeyer. Norm stated that Drummond/Woodsum has a lot of experience in this area and they estimated a turnaround time of a week to 10 days and an estimated cost of \$3,000. Mr. Trask recommended that we use this firm and he also stated that, if we retain Drummond/Woodsum, they would send us a Conflict Letter stating that they are representing the new RSU and not any individual school district in this endeavor.

Motion by Mike Corey (Easton), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to have Norm Trask negotiate a contract with Drummond/Woodsum for review of our plan.

6. Public comment – none

7. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile

- a. Mr. Clockedile stated that the Maine Development Foundation presentation is currently being revised and it may be available for the next meeting, but, if not he will have it for the following one.
- b. Mr. Clockedile also stated that 17 plans have been approved and are going to vote on November 4. Carolee Hallett asked what had happened with the Houlton plan. Mr. Clockedile stated that Houlton's plan had been approved by the Commissioner, and then they pulled it back before it went to public vote because they felt the cost-sharing needed revising. Ultimately they didn't end up revising it.
- c. Mr. Clockedile indicated that he had copies of a guide for technology areas that will need to be addressed such as accounting software, student information software, etc. If anyone does not want to work on cost-sharing, they can take a look at these areas.

8. Superintendent comments/reports – Roger Shaw stated that he was glad to be back and thanked everyone for their support and thoughts during his recent illness.
9. Discussion/questions since last meeting – None.
10. Motion by Mike Corey (Easton), 2nd by Norm Trask (Easton) to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2008 meeting as presented. Approved unanimously.
11. Sub-Committee questions/concerns – Mr. Clockedile offered his help to the Contract Subcommittee if necessary.
12. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date:

None at this point.
13. Members broke out into subcommittee groups for a work session at 7:30 pm to work on their areas of the plans.

Return to full committee at 8:40pm.
14. Reports of Sub-Committees:

Finance: Mike McIntosh reported that the Finance Subcommittee is still in discussion and they hope to have a draft ready for discussion at the next meeting. A draft spreadsheet was distributed and explained by Mike Corey regarding a possible 5/95 split (5% student population/95% based on current local option taxes paid in 2008/2009). This was found to provide the most equal split for the communities.

Contracts/Educational Planning: Greg Day reported that the Contract/Educational Planning Subcommittee is continuing to work on consolidating the tremendous amount of data that they have collected from the individual districts. On Mr. Clockedile's recommendation to "keep it simple", he hopes to have documents out via email for member review this weekend. He reminded members to check their email regularly for documents to be reviewed for the next meeting in order to streamline voting.

Governance: Norm Trask reported that the Governance Committee has completed their portion; however, there had been some discussion regarding adding a provision stating that there will be no school closures for "X" number of years following consolidation. His team is willing to work on that and Mr. Clockedile has noted that the Saco plan has some language that refers to a similar situation.

Disposition of Property: Done.
15. Other Discussion Items:

None.
16. Facilitator summary comments: Mr. Clockedile encouraged groups to continue working because time is getting short.

17. Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Easton Elementary School cafeteria. Following meetings are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 29 and Thursday, October 30.
18. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	bradstreet@pioneercable.net
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD#42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD#42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD#42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD#42	425-5301	gregory.j.day@maine.org
Carolee Hallett	MSAD#42	425-2242	carolee@207me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD#42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD#45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD#45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD#45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD#45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD#45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD#45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD#45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD#45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD#45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	OldOrchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, 15 October 2008 @ 6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. New Business Items
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
4. Public Comment Period
5. Facilitator updates/comments
6. Superintendent comments/reports
7. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
8. Approval of Minutes of 09 October 2008 meeting
9. Approval of Fiscal Agent report dated 09 October 2008
- 10.Planning for public meetings
- 11.Sub-Committee questions/concerns
- 12.Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
- 13.Move to Sub-Committee work time
- 14.Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
- 15.Other discussion items?
- 16.Facilitator summary comments
- 17.Next meeting date/location confirmation – discussion
- 18.Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
- 19.Adjourn ~ 2100

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
October 15, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Wayne Bradbury; Duska Kingsbury; Butch Richardson

Easton: Mike Corey; Dave Hopkins; Norman Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Todd Grass; Carolee Hallett; James McClay; Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Theresa Cochran; Mike McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary; Tim Levesque, Technology Coordinator

Members Absent: Terri Allen (Bridgewater); Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater); Daren Churchill (MSAD #45); Jerry Dow (MSAD #45); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson, (Bridgewater); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Ellen Schneider (Bridgewater); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co Vice-Chairperson, Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45).
2. New Business Items - None.
3. Adjustments to the agenda – None.
4. Public comment – none
5. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile
 - a. Handout – “Summary of Alternative and Reorganization Plans”. Mr. Clockedile explained the breakdown of plans that have been approved by the commissioner and voters; approved by the commissioner and pending voter approval; plans submitted to DOE awaiting approval or revision; other plans in progress {We are HERE}; and those approved by the commissioner and not needing voter approval. There are still 7 unapproved configurations
 - b. Handout – Plans to be voted on 11/4/08. Mr. Clockedile handed out a listing of plans that are scheduled to go to the communities for vote on November 4. He stated that November 5 should be interesting.

- c. Mr. Clockedile provided an update of his report that the State had sent out an RFP for Transportation Software. The company that submitted the 3rd place bid subsequently filed a grievance and was granted an appeal which will required the entire process to be repeated.
 - d. The State facilitators have prompted the creation of a task force to look into Federal/State funds (i.e. Title 1 funds) to determine what impact consolidation will have on these.
 - e. Mr. Clockedile stated that Commissioner Gendron is addressing the Education Subcommittee tomorrow to give an update on the consolidation process. She is going to recommend a "Follow-Up Facilitator Program" for consolidated units. There will be a grant available from the DOE for this process. It is geared toward initial start-up issues for newly consolidated units.
 - f. Two more plans were approved yesterday – Machias & Ellsworth.
 - g. Mr. Clockedile stated that a national e-rate representative has alerted facilitators that there is a process available for consolidated units. It should be available for distribution to RPC's within the next couple of weeks.
 - h. Mr. Clockedile reported that, in an effort to save money, the DOE is trying to end the contract they have with the company who handles the MEA's. The plan is to join with the states of Rhode Island and Vermont to conduct state testing.
6. Superintendent comments/reports – Frank Keenan stated that he had spoken with a representative from the DOE who stated that Title 1 funds would likely be distributed within Consolidated Units based on dollars per student with the money going to those schools that have a lower rate of dollars per student. It is apparent that the new RSU board would not have any say in which schools the money would go to, but they would have a say in how the money is spent within the assigned schools.
 7. Discussion/questions since last meeting – None.
 8. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Nate Smith (MSAD #42) to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2008 meeting as presented. Approved unanimously.
 9. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to approve the Fiscal Agent (financial) report dated October 9, 2008 as presented. Approved unanimously.
 10. General discussion was held regarding scheduling public meetings. Greg Day asked Mr. Clockedile if there was a sample PowerPoint available. Mr. Clockedile said that he could email one. He said that most units have a core group from the RPC to present to each community using a PowerPoint and printed brochure. It was decided, by consensus, that the 4 superintendents and Mr. Clockedile would get together to discuss possible dates for the meetings and it will be discussed at the next meeting.
 11. Sub-Committee questions/concerns – None.
 12. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date:

None at this point.

13. Members broke out into subcommittee groups for a work session at 6:40 pm to work on their areas of the plans with a request that members of subcommittees, who have completed their work, please join another committee to provide assistance.

Return to full committee at 8:10 pm.

14. Reports of Sub-Committees:

Finance: Mike McIntosh reported that the finance committee has been working on language for cost sharing. A handout with proposed language for section 13b, 13b-1, and 14 was distributed for review to the full committee. Mike stated that there is still more work to be done on this document and more language will be added. He and Mike Corey will be working on language to explain, in more detail, the formula used to determine cost sharing.

Contracts/Educational Planning: Greg Day distributed a draft document with proposed language and tables for sections 7a, 7b, 7c, 13a, 13d and 13h. The document was discussed at length with proposed changes. Collective bargaining contracts for support staff will be added to the tables. There was discussion regarding whether benefits should be included in the costs and the general consensus was that if the position in question was full-time and the employee did not receive benefits based on another position held, benefits should be included when calculating costs. Contract end dates were also discussed along with the possible need to negotiate new contracts prior to July 1, 2009 and the impact that would have on the new RSU.

Governance: Norm Trask reported that he and Nate Smith are drafting language to be included somewhere in the plan (they are not sure where yet) that will add a clause disallowing school closure for a period of 5 years following the implementation of the new RSU. This will not prohibit individual communities from closing a school if they so choose.

Disposition of Property: Done.

15. Other Discussion Items: None.

16. Facilitator summary comments: Jake Clockedile recommended that any committees with plans to present proposed language should get those documents sent out for review prior to the next meeting if at all possible.

17. Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 29 and Thursday, October 30 at 6:00 pm in the Easton Elementary cafeteria.

18. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Jamie McClay (MSAD #42) to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	bradstreet@pioneercable.net
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	rrichardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD#42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD#42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD#42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD#42	425-5301	gregory.j.day@maine.org
Carolee Hallett	MSAD#42	425-2242	carolee@207me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD#42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD#45	455-4046	dschurhill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD#45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD#45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD#45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD#45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD#45	455-5865	tcochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD#45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD#45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD#45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	OldOrchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

CENTRAL AROOSTOOK REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance for					
idental expenses:				\$5,000.00	
Expenses:					Explanation:
	Star City IGA/Wal-Mart		\$80.66		Refreshments 6/11 mtg.
	Star City IGA/Wal-Mart		\$93.04		Refreshments 6/18 mtg.
	Easton School Dept		\$65.60		Clerical Support 6/18 mtg
	Star City IGA/WalMart		\$100.51		Refreshments 7/9 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$65.60		Clerical Support 7/9 mtg
	Wal-Mart		\$75.91		Refreshments 7/16 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$57.40		Clerical Support 7/16 mtg
	Easton School Lunch		\$71.38		Refreshments 8/6 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$32.80		Clerical Support 8/6 minutes/plan doc
	Easton School Lunch		\$62.33		Refreshments 8/20 mtg.
	Easton School Dept		\$32.80		Clerical Support 8/20 mtg.
	Easton School Lunch		\$13.15		Refreshments 9/3 mtg.
	Easton School Dept		\$65.50		Clerical Support 9/3 mtg
	Easton School Lunch		\$32.30		Refreshments 9/17 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$65.60		Clerical Support 9/17 mtg
	Easton School Dept		\$98.40		Clerical support 9/22-10/5 plan doc
	Wal-Mart		\$48.06		Refreshments 10/9 mtg
Total Expenses				\$1,061.04	
Remaining Balance (11/03/08):				\$3,938.96	

Presented/approved
8/20/08

Presented/approved
10/15/08

Beginning Balance for legal expenses:		\$2,500.00
Expenses:		
	none	\$0.00
Total Expenses		\$2,500.00
Remaining Balance:		\$2,500.00

Respectfully Submitted:

Shirley Hall
Recording Secretary/Bookkeeper

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, 29 October 2008 @ 6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. Jake Clockedile – Maine Development Foundation Presentation
3. Voting (if necessary)
4. New Business Items
5. Adjustments to the Agenda
6. Public Comment Period
7. Facilitator updates/comments
8. Superintendent comments/reports
9. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
10. Approval of Minutes of 15 October 2008 meeting
11. Planning for public meetings
12. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
13. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
14. Move to Sub-Committee work time
15. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
16. Other discussion items?
17. Facilitator summary comments
18. Next meeting date/location confirmation – discussion
19. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
20. Adjourn ~ 2100

Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
October 29, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Duska Kingsbury

Easton: Mike Corey; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Carolee Hallett; James McClay; Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Mike McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Fred Boyd, Principal (MSAD #42); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary; Tim Levesque, Technology Coordinator

Members Absent: Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater); Jerry Dow (MSAD #45); Todd Grass (MSAD #42); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Dave Hopkins (Easton); Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson, (Bridgewater); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Ellen Schneider (Bridgewater); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45); Norm Trask (Easton)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co Vice-Chairperson, Greg Day (MSAD #42).
2. Maine Development Foundation – Jake Clockedile presented a Powerpoint from the Maine Development Foundation highlighting population and economic changes in the State of Maine that are having a direct effect on K-12 education in the State of Maine.

Jake also presented a spreadsheet showing a post-consolidation breakdown of Title 1A funding based on two different scenarios. The first shows distribution of funds based on a per pupil formula based on percentage of free/reduced lunch. The second option is to let the RSU determine how they want the money distributed.

Frank Keenan asked about REAP money which is based on school size and how that would be affected by consolidation. Jake said that has been brought up but there is no answer as of yet.

Roger Shaw stated that he had received an email from the Labor Board regarding the legality of negotiating a new teacher contract before the new school year. Jake said that he had heard some conversations regarding that. There is a disagreement as to the intent of the current law. The MEA wants contracts negotiated, but doing so may not be legal. The Labor Board plans to present ruling on this on November 4.

Frank Keenan asked, if a district votes down the plan, would that be a good time for both sides to begin negotiations? Jake said that would probably be necessary at that point.

3. Voting: Motion by Carolee Hallett, 2nd by Wayne Bradbury to approve the Governance Committee's wording for "A 5 Year Moratorium On School Closings"

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 - approved

4. New Business Items - None.

5. Adjustments to the agenda – Greg Day requested that item #11 (Planning for Public Meetings) be moved to item #20 because we will know better where we stand by the end of tonight's meeting. Approved by consensus.

6. Public comment – none

7. Facilitator Update/Comments – Jake Clockedile

- b. Plans are being submitted to the Department, he believed 7 today with 11 planned for tomorrow. The Department's plan is, for any plan submitted on November 14, it should be turned around by November 21st. There is a high incident of plans being turned back due to lack of specific cost savings.

Frank Keenan stated that he had spoken with the Commissioner at a conference last week and got the sense that plans were being turned back for not showing savings in Administration, Special Ed., Transportation and Maintenance when the plans were resulting in increased costs once all areas are figured. Frank asked if the RPC will be prevented from stating that the total impact of consolidating would result in increased costs. Jake stated the most are being returned due to lack of detail. Plans should show a decrease in costs, but can also show an initial increase due to "leveling up".

- b. Jake also stated that he had brought several newsletters that districts had sent out with consolidation information. He will leave those for review.

8. Superintendent comments/reports – None.

9. Discussion/questions since last meeting – None.

10. Motion by Jamie McClay (MSAD #42), 2nd by Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater) to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2008 meeting as presented. Approved unanimously.

11. Planning for public meetings: moved to end of meeting.

12. Sub-Committee questions/concerns – Greg Day reminded members that we really need to try to get everything wrapped up by tomorrow night. Including voting.

13. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date:

None at this point.

14. Members broke out into subcommittee groups for a work session at 7:10 pm to work on their areas of the plans with a request that members of subcommittees, who have completed their work, please join another committee to provide assistance.

Return to full committee at 8:40 pm.

15. Reports of Sub-Committees:

Finance: Documents with proposed language for sections 6, 12, 13b and 14 were distributed. Mike McIntosh reported that these are very close to being ready for vote. Mike Corey gave a brief overview of the language in sections 13-b and 13-b-1. Mike McIntosh explained section 14. Jamie McClay went over the highlights of section 6 language and Carolee Hallett explained the draft for section 12.

Contracts/Educational Planning: Greg Day explained that their committee is very close to having a final draft. He plans to work with Jake and Kim tomorrow on final language and plans to have a draft ready for voting tomorrow evening.

Governance: Done.

Disposition of Property: Done.

16. Other Discussion Items: None.

17. Facilitator summary comments: None.

18. Next meeting date: Thursday, October 30 at 6:00 pm in the Easton Elementary cafeteria.

19. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items – Greg Day suggested having drafts distributed and voting done early in the next meeting. Approved by consensus.

20. Public meeting planning tabled to tomorrow night's meeting.

21. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	bradstreet@pioneercable.net
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	r-richardson2@ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
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James McClay	MSAD#42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD#42	425-5301	gregory.j.day@maine.org
Carolee Hallett	MSAD#42	425-2242	carolee@207me.com
Todd Grass	MSAD#42	429-9497	toddgrass@hotmail.com
Daren Churchill	MSAD#45	455-4046	dschurchill@verizon.net
Andrea Powers	MSAD#45	455-1002	townmanager@washburnmaine.org
Jerry Dow	MSAD#45	455-5913	perhamtown@yahoo.com
Michael McIntosh	MSAD#45	455-4812	m_mcintosh@yahoo.com
Jan Grieco	MSAD#45	455-4907	jangrieco@ainop.com
Theresa Cochran	MSAD#45	455-5865	tcocochran@ainop.com
Edward Buckley*	MSAD#45	455-8301	edpbuckley@yahoo.com
Cary Schumacker	MSAD#45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD#45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	OldOrchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Thursday, 30 October 2008 @ 6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order ~ 1800
2. Distribution of draft documents
3. Voting (if necessary)
4. New Business Items
5. Adjustments to the Agenda
6. Public Comment Period
7. Facilitator updates/comments
8. Superintendent comments/reports
9. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
10. Approval of Minutes of 29 October 2008 meeting
11. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
12. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
13. Move to Sub-Committee work time
14. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
15. Other discussion items?
16. Facilitator summary comments
17. Next meeting date/location confirmation – discussion
18. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
19. Public meeting planning/discussion
20. Adjourn ~ 2100

**Central Aroostook RPC Meeting
October 30, 2008
6:00 pm
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria**

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Duska Kingsbury; Butch Richardson; Ellen Schneider, Asst. Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: Mike Corey; Dave Hopkins; Norm Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Todd Grass; Carolee Hallett; James McClay; Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Mike McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: Gerald Clockedile (RPC Facilitator); Fred Boyd, Principal (MSAD #42); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary; Tim Levesque, Technology Coordinator

Members Absent: Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater); Jerry Dow (MSAD #45); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson, (Bridgewater); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm in the Easton Elementary School cafeteria by Co Vice-Chairperson, Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45).
2. Distribution of Draft Documents: The following documents were distributed for review and vote:

Contract/Educational Planning Committee:

Section 7a (a, b & c) – Assignment of School Personnel Contracts, School Collective Bargaining Agreements and Other School Contractual Obligations

Greg Day gave a brief overview and explanation of this document. There were no questions presented and no further discussion.

Section 13a – Plans to re-organize 4 areas of operation (Current Administration, Central Office Staff, Transportation/Maintenance and Special Education.

Greg Day gave an overview of each section of this document. It was determined that changes needed to be made to two of the spreadsheets. These changes would be made and the document redistributed prior to tonight's voting.

Section 13-d -- Tuition Contracts and Choice

Brief description given by Greg Day.

Section 13-f – Vote to submit the Plan to the Commissioner

Brief description given by Greg Day.

Section 13-g – RSU with Less than 2500 Students

Brief description given by Greg Day.

Section 13-h – CTE Regions

Brief description given by Jake Clockedile.

Governance Committee:

Section 9 – Transition Plan and Timetable for the CADS

Previously distributed and approved, this section was amended by the addition of one paragraph which deals with personnel policies during the transition period. This was explained by Jake Clockedile.

Finance Committee:

Section 6 – The disposition of existing school indebtedness and lease-purchase obligations if the parties elect not to use the provisions of the Section 1506 regarding the disposition of debt obligations.

Explanation for each section of this document was given by Jamie McClay.

Section 12 – Estimate of Cost Savings to be Achieved

Draft document submitted by Carolee Hallett with explanation by Frank Keenan, Jake Clockedile and Greg Day in her absence.

Section 13-b – Cost Sharing in the Regional School Unit

Document submitted and explained by Mike McIntosh.

Section 13-b.1 – Cost-Sharing Formula

Document submitted and explained by Mike McIntosh.

Section 13-e – Claims and Insurances

Document submitted and explained by Jamie McClay.

Section 14 – Amendment to the RSU Plan

Document submitted and explained by Mike McIntosh.

Community groups separated at 7:00 pm to discuss documents and voting. At 7:30 pm the members of the Finance Committee were requested to join the MSAD #45 delegation for a brief discussion.

Full committee reconvened at 7:45 pm. At this time it was reported that, in the process of reviewing the Section 6 document regarding ‘disposition of existing school indebtedness’, members of the MSAD #45 delegation realized that their district had a significant amount of debt that had not been previously disclosed to the RPC due to the misconception that the debt was state funded and, therefore not considered debt for the RSU’s purpose.

There was significant discussion regarding this debt and whether it should or should not effect the proposed cost-sharing formula. After some time spent in debate it was decided, by consensus, to go ahead and vote on those sections of the plan that would not be affected by this issue. Official voting began at 8:30 pm.

3. Voting:

- a. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater) to approve the Contract Committee’s draft of section 7a.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- b. Motion by Greg Day (MSAD #42), 2nd by Jamie McClay (MSAD #42) to approve the Contract Committee’s draft of section 7b & 7c.

Voting as follows:

Easton—approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- c. Motion by Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater), 2nd by Jamie McClay (MSAD #42) to approve the Contract Committee’s amended draft of section 13a.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- d. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Norm Trask (Easton) to approve the Contract Committee's draft of section 13d.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- e. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to approve the Contract Committee's draft of section 13f.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- f. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Daren Churchill (MSAD #45) to approve the Contract Committee's draft of section 13g.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- g. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Jamie McClay (MSAD #42) to approve the Contract Committee's draft of section 13h.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- h. Section 6 from the Finance Committee tabled pending further discussion.

- i. Motion by Greg Day (MSAD #42), 2nd by Norm Trask (Easton) to approve the Finance Committee's draft of section 12.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- j. Sections 13b & 13b.1 from the Finance Committee tabled pending further discussion.
- k. Motion by Todd Grass (MSAD #42), 2nd by Jamie McClay to approve the Finance Committee's draft of section 13e with proposed changes.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved with changes
Bridgewater – approved with changes
MSAD #42 – approved with changes
MSAD #45 – approved with changes

- l. Motion by Terri Allen (Bridgewater), 2nd by Daren Churchill (MSAD #45) to approved the Finance Committee's draft of section 14.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

- m. Motion by Terri Allen (Bridgewater), 2nd by Greg Day (MSAD #42) to approved the updated version of the Governance Committee's section 9 document adding the paragraph regarding transitional personnel policies.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

Following voting, there was continued discussion regarding sections 6, 13b & 13b.1. With strong arguments from both sides, it was suggested that the issue be tabled until the Finance Committee can review the situation further. At this point a motion was made by Carolee Hallett, 2nd by Todd Grass to vote on documents for section 6, 13b & 13b.1 as they stand without approving the additional MSAD #45 debt.

Individual delegations gathered to caucus prior to voting on these documents. Committee reconvened at 8:55 pm at which point Carolee Hallett withdrew her motion. A motion was made by Duska Kingsbury (Bridgewater), 2nd by Norm Trask (Easton) to have the Finance Committee reconvene, with the

Superintendents, to determine the best way to proceed with the cost sharing issue. Approved unanimously.

Plan for the Finance Committee and Superintendents to meet in Easton at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 5 with the remaining committee members to join them at 7:00 pm with the intent to have documents for sections 6, 13b and 13b.1 ready to vote on.

4. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Duska Kingsbury (Bridgewater) to table items 4 through 19 until the next meeting and adjourn at 9:10 pm. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
Wayne Bradbury	Bridgewater	227-2828	janet@pioneercable.net
Nina Bradstreet	Bridgewater	429-8130	bradstreet@pioneercable.net
Duska Kingsbury	Bridgewater	425-7149	duska@pwless.net
Butch Richardson	Bridgewater	429-8811	r-richardson2ainop.com
Ellen Schneider*	Bridgewater	764-4101	ellen.schneider@sad1.org
Gehrig Johnson*	Bridgewater	764-4101	gehrig@sad1.org
Norman Trask	Easton	764-4193	ntrask@curriertrask.com
Michael Corey	Easton	488-6917	mcorey@hydroblendinc.com
Tom Osgood	Easton	488-6932	tosgood@mamusg.com
Dave Hopkins	Easton	227-3446	dhopkins@ces-maine.com
Frank Keenan*	Easton	488-7700	frank.keenan@eastonschooldistrict.org
Roger Shaw*	MSAD#42	425-3771	rshaw@sad42.k12.me.us
Nathan Smith	MSAD#42	429-8095	polisciguy02@hotmail.com
James McClay	MSAD#42	227-8606	jmcclay@amhc.org
Greg Day	MSAD#42	425-5301	gregory.j.day@maine.org
Carolee Hallett	MSAD#42	425-2242	carolee@207me.com
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Cary Schumacker	MSAD#45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD#45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	OldOrchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

Central Aroostook Regional Planning Committee
Wednesday, November 5 2008 @ 5:00 pm (Finance Committee)
7:00 pm (Full Committee)
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

1. Call to Order (Finance Committee) ~ 1700
2. Work on cost sharing formula by finance committee members
3. Call to order (Full Committee) - 1900
4. Distribution of draft documents
5. Voting
6. New Business Items
7. Adjustments to the Agenda
8. Public Comment Period
9. Facilitator updates/comments
10. Superintendent comments/reports
11. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting
12. Approval of Minutes of 29 October 2008 & 30 October 2008 meeting
13. Approval of Fiscal Agent Financial Report dated 30 October 2008
14. Sub-Committee questions/concerns
15. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials to date
16. Move to Sub-Committee work time
17. Reports of Sub-Committees ~ 2030
18. Facilitator summary comments
19. Next meeting date/location confirmation – discussion
20. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items?
21. Public meeting planning/discussion
22. Adjourn ~ 2100

November 5, 2008
5:00 pm (Finance Committee)
7:00 (Full Committee)
Easton Elementary School Cafeteria

SAU's Participating: Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD #42, MSAD #45

Members Present:

Bridgewater: Terri Allen; Wayne Bradbury; Nina Bradstreet; Duska Kingsbury; Ellen Schneider, Asst. Superintendent (Liaison)

Easton: MikeCorey; Dave Hopkins; Norm Trask; Frank Keenan, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #42: Greg Day; Todd Grass; Carolee Hallett; James McClay; Nate Smith; Roger Shaw, Superintendent (Liaison)

MSAD #45: Daren Churchill; Theresa Cochran; Mike McIntosh; Ed Buckley, Superintendent (Liaison)

Non-Members Present: GeraldClockedile (RPC Facilitator); Fred Boyd, Principal (MSAD #42); Kimberly Hall, Recording Secretary; Tim Levesque, Technology Coordinator

Members Absent: Jerry Dow (MSAD #45); Jan Greico (MSAD #45); Tim Humphrey (MSAD #45); Gehrig Johnson, (Bridgewater); Tom Osgood (Easton); Andrea Powers (MSAD #45); Butch Richardson (Bridgewater); Cary Schumacker (MSAD #45)

1. Meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order at 5:10 pm by Finance Chair, Mike McIntosh (MSAD #45).
2. Finance Committee held a work session in the Easton Elementary Library from 5:10 pm until 6:30 pm when they broke for dinner.
3. Meeting of the Full Committee was called to order at 7:30 pm by Vice-Chair, Greg Day (MSAD #42).
4. Distribution of draft documents:

Statement of Intent, Preamble, Mission Statement, Educational Goals and Potential Educational Advantages.

Distributed by Greg Day as required aspects of the final plan that had been included in the plan but not voted on.

Section 6 and Exhibits 6-A through 6-G, Disposition of school debt.

Distributed by Jamie McClay (MSAD #42) with changes based on changes to the Cost Sharing Formula. This moved existing debt from Exhibit 6-A (Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements that the CADS RSU Will Assume) to Exhibit 6-B (Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements that the CADS RSU Will Not Assume)

After some discussion it was requested that the following sentence be added to Section 6-A [Any such activity must be approved by the RPC or the Transition Team, whichever is in place at the time.]

Section 13-B-1, Cost Sharing Formula

Distributed by the Finance Committee with explanation by Mike Corey (Easton). The original cost sharing formula has been modified to remove existing debt. Each SAU will be responsible for its current local debt through the life of that debt. Each SAU will also be responsible for its required local contribution toward EPS and any additional local funds shall be shared by the member SAU's as follows:

Bridgewater	2.41%
Easton	57.4%
Blaine	8.4%
Mars Hill	14.32%
Perham	3.51%
Wade	2.11%
Washburn	11.84%

Ellen Schneider voiced her concern about Bridgewater's percentage based on their town's vote to close their school. She wondered if their share should be reduced because their above EPS would probably go down. Jake explained that the figures were based on 2008/2009 actual figures and, historically, towns that tuition are generally still above EPS.

5. Voting:

a. Motion by -----, 2nd by ----- to approve pages 12-14 of the draft plan which include the Statement of Intent, Preamble, Mission Statement, Educational Goals and Potential Educational Advantages.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45—approved

b. Motion by Mike Corey (Easton), 2nd by Terri Allen (Bridgewater) to approve Section 6 and Exhibits 6-A through 6-G with the amendment to section 6-A.

Voting as follows:

Easton – approved
Bridgewater – approved
MSAD #42 – approved
MSAD #45 – approved

c. Motion by Wayne Bradbury (Bridgewater), 2nd by Daren Churchill (MSAD #45) to approve Section 13-B-1.

Voting as follows:

Easton—approved
Bridgewater—approved
MSAD #42—approved
MSAD #45—approved

6. New Business – none.

7. Adjustments to the Agenda – Greg Day explained that we would be jumping around the agenda as necessary.

8. Public comment – none.
9. Facilitator updates/comments:
??????????
10. Superintendent comments/reports – none.
11. Discussion/Questions Since Last Meeting—none.
12. Motion by Carolee Hallett (MSAD #42), 2nd by Duska Kingsbury (Bridgewater) to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2008 meeting and the October 30, 2008 meeting. Approved unanimously.
13. Motion by Nina Bradstreet (Bridgewater), 2nd by Todd Grass (MSAD #42) to approve the Fiscal Agent Financial report. Approved unanimously.
14. Sub-Committee questions/concerns—none.
15. Sub-Committee presentation of draft materials – none.
16. Move to sub-committee work time – not done.
17. Reports of Sub-Committees – none
18. Facilitator summary comments:

Jake Clockedile commended the group on their hard work and stated that he had enjoyed his time here.

Frank Keenan thanked Jake for his time and told the group that he had not been looking forward to this process, but found that this group was extremely good to work with and the experience had been a good one.

19. Next meeting date/location –none scheduled at this time.
20. Next meeting suggested/additional agenda items—none.
21. Public meeting planning/discussion:

Discussion was held regarding when public meetings should be held and who will present. It was decided that there should be at least one person from each district, the superintendents and Jake.

Presentation committee will be made up of the following members:

Bridgewater – Terri Allen & Wayne Bradbury
MSAD #45 – Mike McIntosh
MSAD #42 – Greg Day & Todd Grass
Easton – Mike Corey & Norm Trask

Meeting dates are scheduled as follows:

MSAD #42 – Tuesday, December 9, 2008
Easton -- Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Bridgewater-- Thursday, December 11, 2008
MSAD #45-- Wednesday, December 17, 2008

A request for volunteers to work on an informational brochure for bulk mailing to communities prior to the public meetings was made. Jamie McClay volunteered to create the brochure. Kim Hall will email him the templates for the brochure.

22. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary

Central Aroostook RPC Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Terri Allen	Bridgewater	425-2161	polyop61@hotmail.com
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Cary Schumacker	MSAD#45		
Tim Humphrey	MSAD#45	455-4988	jandthumphrey@aol.com
Jake Clockedile	OldOrchard	205-5334	ggclock@gwi.net

CENTRAL AROOSTOOK REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance for incidental expenses:			\$5,000.00	
Expenses:				Explanation:
	Star City IGA/Wal-Mart	\$80.66	Refreshments 6/11 mtg.	
	Star City IGA/Wal-Mart	\$93.04	Refresments 6/18 mtg.	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical Support 6/18 mtg	
	Star City IGA/WalMart	\$100.51	Refreshments 7/9 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical Support 7/9 mtg	
	Wal-Mart	\$75.91	Refreshments 7/16 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$57.40	Clerical Support 7/16 mtg	
	Easton School Lunch	\$71.38	Refreshments 8/6 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$32.80	Clerical Support 8/6 minutes/plan doc	
	Easton School Lunch	\$62.33	Refreshments 8/20 mtg.	
	Easton School Dept	\$32.80	Clerical Support 8/20 mtg.	
	Easton School Lunch	\$13.15	Refreshments 9/3 mtg.	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.50	Clerical Support 9/3 mtg	
	Easton School Lunch	\$32.30	Refreshments 9/17 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical Support 9/17 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$98.40	Clerical support 9/22-10/5 plan doc	
	Wal-Mart	\$48.06	Refreshments 10/9 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$98.40	Clerical support 10/9 mtg & plan doc	
	Wal-Mart/Star City	\$36.68	Refreshments 10/15 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$114.80	Clerical support 10/15 mtg & plan doc	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical support 10/21 & 10/23 plan doc	
	Easton School Dept	\$86.74	Refreshments 10/29 & 10/30 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical support 10/29 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical Support 10/30 mtg	
	Easton School Dept	\$65.60	Clerical Support 11/2 plan doc	
Total Expenses		\$1,660.06		
Remaining Balance (11/03/08):		\$3,339.94		
Beginning Balance for legal expenses:		\$2,500.00		
Expenses:				
	none	\$0.00		
Total Expenses		\$2,500.00		
Remaining Balance:		\$2,500.00		

Respectfully Submitted:

Kimberly Hall
Recording Secretary/Bookkeeper

Exhibit 12 – Estimate of Cost Savings to be Achieved

Cost Differential placing all
District Faculty/Staff on Easton Contract

	District	Current Salary	Salary on Easton Contract	Difference	Current Insurance	Insurance cost on Easton Contract	Difference	Total Difference
Faculty	SAD 42	\$1,406,287.00	\$1,684,896.00	\$278,609.00	\$273,783.00	\$295,702.00	\$21,919.00	-\$300,528.00
	SAD 45	\$1,246,063.00	\$1,412,580.00	\$166,517.00	\$253,571.00	\$278,687.00	\$25,116.00	-\$191,633.00
				\$445,126.00			\$47,035.00	-\$492,161.00
Support Staff	SAD 42	\$543,149.10	\$680,151.55	\$137,002.45	\$123,649.92	\$139,614.12	\$15,964.20	-\$152,966.65
	SAD 45	\$519,174.43	\$648,224.20	\$129,049.77	\$120,170.55	\$122,061.63	-\$1,891.08	-\$130,940.85
				\$266,052.22			\$17,855.28	-\$283,907.50
Nurse	SAD 42	\$46,350.00	\$50,941.28	-\$4,591.28	\$8,479.32	\$12,826.10	-\$4,346.78	-\$8,938.06
	SAD 45	\$17,397.00	\$22,698.00	-\$5,301.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$5,301.00
				-\$9,892.28			-\$4,346.78	-\$14,239.06
Technology	SAD 42	\$31,200.00	\$31,798.00	-\$598.00	\$6,212.16	\$0.00	\$6,212.16	\$5,614.16
	SAD 45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
				-\$598.00			\$6,212.16	\$5,614.16
GRAND TOTALS				\$721,668.50			\$63,024.90	-\$784,693.40



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

November 17, 2008

Thomas Osgood, RPC Chairperson
PO Box 789
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Dear Mr. Osgood:

Thank you for the revised Reorganization Plan that you submitted on behalf of the Bridgewater and Easton School Departments, MSAD 42, and MSAD 45 on November 6, 2008 for Department review for compliance with the school reorganization law, P.L. 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX.

I recognize how much time, effort and thoughtful work is required to complete a reorganization plan and appreciate the efforts made, to date, by all those involved.

Members of my staff and I have reviewed the submission and offer the comments and notes listed below to assist you in completing the plan. If you make any substantive change(s) to any part of the plan beyond those listed below, please be sure to note those on the Updated Reorganization Plan Cover Sheet Checklist, along with notation of those items that have changed per the notes contained in this response.

General Documentation (Submittal Sheet)

- Please include the date the plan was submitted on pp. 1, 10, and 11 with your final plan submission.

Checklist/Plan Text Items

Items Checked "Complete"

With respect to the items you checked as "complete", please note the following:

** Required Elements*

3. Please remove the statement, "and the statutory deviation tolerance of $\pm 2\%$ ", from this section of your plan, as it does not pertain to Method "D" of Weighted Voting.

9. Please use the proper heading for this section "A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel policies". Also, describe more fully the plan for development of the budget for the first school year, as required under this item. Please review and clarify, if necessary, the language of paragraph 6 and the accompanying indents, as it does not seem to read clearly.

11. The Commissioner's approval of a reorganization plan is of the plan as written on a date certain. Please clarify in this section that future amendments to the plan require Commissioner approval.

13. Under the heading School Calendar, please clarify that it will be a function of the RSU board, not the interim CADS board, to allow for variations in the school calendar.

13-B. A plan submitted for the Commissioner's approval must include the cost-sharing agreement for the regional school unit, not only for the Department to review, but to provide notice to voters prior to the referendum on the plan approved by the Commissioner. Please either copy or move this information from sections 14-B and 14-C to section 13-B to meet this requirement.

14. The Commissioner's approval of a reorganization plan is of the plan as written on a date certain. Please clarify in this section that future amendments to the plan require Commissioner approval.

We will review all items on the checklist again, upon your completion of the plan.

SUBMISSION OF REVISIONS:

Please provide the additional materials to complete your plan as soon as possible, to ensure that you meet the January 20, 2009 referendum timeline requirements. Please include:

- Any additional data required
- An updated Submittal Page with Signatures
- An updated Cover Sheet Checklist
- A copy of this Response from the Commissioner.

I will respond no more than 14 days after the revisions/additional materials are refiled with the Department. As you are the contact person identified on the Submittal Sheet, this response is addressed to you but with the understanding that you will share it

with your school administrative unit board members, RPC members and others involved with this Reorganization Plan.

Finally, what I am reviewing for approval is a plan (or a submission, if the plan is incomplete) which is by its very nature prospective, with steps yet to be taken or finalized; and any review comments or approval given are in relation to the elements required under P.L 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX but not the legality of all the activities proposed. Thus, I strongly recommend that you have your own legal advisor(s) review the details of any particular transaction proposed in your plan (particularly with respect to the disposition of property, to debt, and to employee contracts/relations) as you proceed, to ensure the legality of the steps you'll be taking to implement the plan. If that review leads to any substantive changes in any parts of your plan, please be sure to submit an amended plan to the Department for our review and our file.

Again, my sincere thanks for your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan A. Gendron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" being more prominent.

Susan A. Gendron
Commissioner of Education

cc: Frank Keenan, Superintendent, Easton School Department
Gehrig Johnson, Superintendent, Bridgewater School Department
Roger Shaw, Superintendent, MSAD 42
Edward Buckley, Superintendent, MSAD 45
Jake Clockedile, Facilitator